DH
DECCAN HERALD
The Power of Good

Ranya Rao may face up to Rs 102 cr penalty

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BRS suspends Kavitha for anti-party activities

Page 10

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Govt. of Karnataka

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
& Bengaluru City Development Minister
Govt. of Karnataka

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Addresses of Greater Bengaluru Authority and 5 City Corporations

Greater Bengaluru Authority	Bengaluru East City Corporation	Bengaluru West City Corporation
Annex - 1 & 2 Buildings, (Within BBMP Head Office Premises), Narasimharaja Square, Hudson Circle, Bengaluru - 560002.	Commissioner, Bengaluru East City Corporation (Office of the Mahadevapura Zonal Commissioner), RHB Colony, Opposite Phoenix Mall, Whitefield Main Road, Mahadevapura Post, Bengaluru - 560048.	Commissioner, Bengaluru West City Corporation (Office of the Rajarajeshwarinagar Zonal Commissioner), 18th Cross Road, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru - 560098.
Bengaluru Central City Corporation	**Bengaluru South City Corporation**	**Bengaluru North City Corporation**
Commissioner, Bengaluru Central City Corporation, 10th Floor (Office of the East Zonal Commissioner), P.U. Building, MG Road, Bengaluru - 560001.	Commissioner, Bengaluru South City Corporation (Office of the South Zonal Commissioner), 9th Main Road, 9th Cross Road, 2nd Phase, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011.	Commissioner,Bengaluru North City Corporation (Office of the Yelahanka Zonal Commissioner), Byatarayanapura, Amruthahalli Main Road, Ballari Road, Bengaluru - 560092.

RESPONSIVE BENGALURU IS GREATER BENGALURU

Lankan Prez's Katchatheevu visit rattles Tamil Nadu fishermen

Dissanayake's trip comes amid calls to retrieve the island

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

In a move that could upset India, Anura Kumara Dissanayake on Monday became the first Sri Lankan President to set foot on Katchatheevu, an uninhabited 285-acre island sandwiched between the two countries in the Palk Bay.

Before his unscheduled visit to the island, which was ceded to Sri Lanka by India in 1974, Dissanayake asserted that his government would not yield to any pressure regarding demands over the retrieval of the island in Tamil Nadu, and maintained that he would safeguard Sri Lanka's territory.

His unprecedented visit to the island — just a 45-minute speedboat ride from Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu — is unlikely to be welcomed by India, which has gone the extra mile to maintain its ties with Sri Lanka. While India has not questioned Sri Lanka's ownership of Katchatheevu since 1974, it has urged Colombo to adopt a humanitarian approach towards Tamil Nadu fishermen who cross into Sri Lankan waters while fishing.

Dissanayake's visit has sparked fears of renewed attacks by the Sri Lankan Navy on fishermen from Ramanathapuram, Pudukkottai, Thanjavur and Nagapattinam districts.

Anura Kumara Dissanayake

"Katchatheevu belongs to the people of Sri Lanka. We will not allow anyone to take it by force. It is my responsibility to protect the people of Sri Lanka, regardless of the region they live in or the language they speak," Dissanayake told Tamils in northern Sri Lanka on Monday.

While the visit is seen as a clear message to India that Sri Lanka will never backtrack on the issue of Katchatheevu, the development comes amid repeated calls by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and other political leaders for the retrieval of the island. Actor-turned-politician Vijay joined the chorus on August 21 by urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take steps to reclaim the island. Modi himself had raked up the issue in the lead-up to the 2024 polls.

Strategic expert N Sathiya Moorthy, who has extensive experience covering Sri Lanka, told *DH* that Dissanayake's visit to Katchatheevu was an avoidable irritant in relations with India. "If he thought he was winning over the Tamils in Sri Lanka and the fisherfolk, he is mistaken. They don't actually care about Katchatheevu. Their opposition to Indian fishermen entering Sri Lankan waters is only due to their fishing methods (bottom trawlers)," he said.

NJ Bose, secretary of the Tamil Nadu Boat Fishermen's Welfare Association, told *DH* that Dissanayake's visit was a direct response to growing demands in Tamil Nadu to reclaim the island. "We are worried about what this means for our fishermen who rely on the rich catch near Katchatheevu. While Sri Lanka asserts its claim, India remains silent as always, compromising the safety and rights of its own fishermen," he said.

Punjab AAP MLA booked for rape escapes custody in hail of bullets

PATIALA, PTI: A high drama was witnessed on Tuesday in Haryana's Karnal when AAP MLA from Punjab Harmeet Singh Pathanmajra escaped police custody amid gunshots and stone pelting by his supporters after his arrest in a rape case, officials said.

Pathanmajra was at the residence of one of his relatives in Dabri village, where a Punjab Police team had gone to arrest him.

"We conducted a raid at Pathanmajra's (relative) residence in Haryana. He was arrested. But a group of villagers and some mischievous elements pelted stones at police and fired gunshots," said Pardeep Bajwa, the in-charge of the Patiala Crime Investigation Agency. The MLA used the cover fire and stone pelting to escape, he said.

According to an FIR on September 1, Pathanmajra was booked on charges of rape, cheating, and criminal intimidation. The case was registered on a complaint by a Zirakpur-based woman, who alleged that the MLA misrepresented himself as divorced, entered into a relationship with her, and later married in 2021 while already being married.

Bengal LoP suspended from Assembly for creating ruckus

KOLKATA, DHNS: The West Bengal assembly witnessed a ruckus on Tuesday as the BJP legislators protested against a comment by a minister of the Trinamool Congress on the Indian Army personnel dismantling a makeshift podium of the ruling party set up in an area owned by the Ministry of Defence.

Suvendu Adhikari, the Leader of the Opposition was suspended for the remaining days of the special session after he led party legislators in protesting against a comment of education minister, Bratya Basu.

"When the Army dismantled our stage yesterday, it reminded me of the Pakistani Army firing in Dhaka on March 25, 1971. It also reminded me of the sacrifices made by people to protect our language and identity," Basu said.

Basu's comment prompted Adhikari and the other BJP leaders to accuse him of equating the Indian Army to the Pakistan Army. Adhikari demanded Basu's comment be expunged, which the speaker rejected.

"I was suspended because I protested against Basu's defamatory remarks. The TMC leaders have proved that they are agents of Pakistan... I am proud that I have been suspended for protesting against attempts to defame the country," he said.

Rats gnaw at 2 newborns in MP hospital; 1 dies of 'pneumonia'

INDORE, PTI: After rats gnawed on two newborn babies at the government-run Maharaja Yashwantrao Hospital (MYH) in Madhya Pradesh's Indore, one of these two infants, a girl, died of pneumonia on Tuesday, an official said.

Following the incident of the rat attack, the hospital suspended two nursing staffers and removed the nursing superintendent from the post. Also, a fine of Rs 1 lakh has been imposed on a private firm tasked with cleaning the hospital premises, he said.

Probe ordered

Rats bit the fingers of one child in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of the department related to the surgery of newborns, while they gnawed the head and shoulder of another child in the last 48 hours. The incident prompted the hospital administration to order an investigation.

After the death of the newborn girl following the rat attack, questions were raised at the hospital management, but the MYH administration claimed that the girl was suffering from various congenital deformities and died of 'pneumonia infection'.

Goyel hopes for US-India trade deal by November

Cites a 'little bit' of geopolitical issues for delay

NEW DELHI, PTI

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday expressed hope that India will conclude the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA) with the US by the fall or November this year.

He said that "a little bit" of geopolitical issues overtook the trade matters in negotiations for the pact between the two countries.

Piyush Goyal

"I do hope that things will get back on track soon and we will conclude a bilateral trade agreement by the fall, November or so, as was discussed by our two leaders in February," Goyal said at the Annual Global Investor Conference 2025 in Mumbai.

In his virtual address, he said there is an excitement across the world to expand trading and business relations with India.

India has already inked free trade agreements with Australia, the UAE, Mauritius, the UK and the four European nations bloc EFTA, he said.

"Lots happen, lots more to go...With the US, we are in dialogue with them on a BTA," the minister said earlier in the day.

India and the US have been negotiating the pact since March. So far, five rounds of talks have been completed. A US team was scheduled to visit India from August 25 to hold the next round of talks. However, the team deferred the visit following the imposition of a 50% duty on Indian goods from August 27.

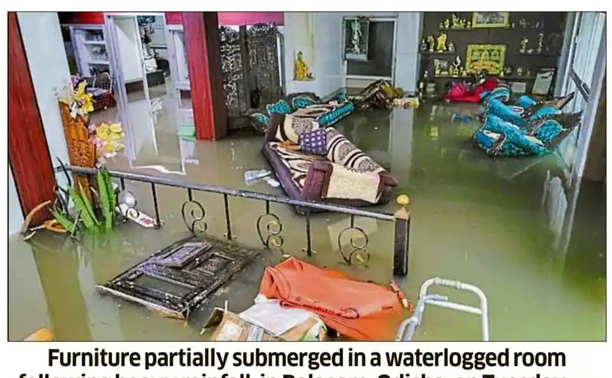
So far, no new dates have been finalised for the sixth round of negotiations.

India and the US have planned to conclude the first phase of BTA by the fall this year, with an aim to more than double bilateral trade in goods and services to $500 billion by 2030 from the current $191 billion.

Amid tensions between India and the US, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that at the end of the day, the two great countries will get this solved. Delhi's values are much closer to ours and to China's than to Russia's. In an interview with Fox News, he also termed the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) as being largely performative.

Earlier, on the India-EU free trade agreement, Goyal said talks are at an advanced stage.

A vehicle stuck in Manalsu drain, flowing in spate, after heavy monsoon rain, at Manali in Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh. PTI



Furniture partially submerged in a waterlogged room following heavy rainfall, in Balasore, Odisha, on Tuesday. PTI

A man carries his belongings through a flooded alley, after a rise in the level of Yamuna, in New Delhi. REUTERS

Rain showers misery on north India

KALYAN RAY & SANJAY PANDEY
NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW, DHNS

North India continued to be battered by incessant rains on Tuesday, disrupting normal life, with the Yamuna River breaching the danger mark, raising the chances of flooding in Delhi and causing heavy traffic jams in Gurugram and other parts of the National Capital Region.

Hills of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, and large parts of Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan were also pounded by the southwest monsoon.

Heavy to very heavy rainfall would continue over northwest India for the next two days, said an India Meteorological Department official.

The two hill states that witnessed cloudburst and extremely heavy rainfall events in the past week, causing multiple landslides, experienced extremely heavy rainfall of 230 mm on Tuesday.

Delhi has breached 1,000 mm of rainfall for the season as rain lashed the national capital and its surrounding region. The city crossed its annual average rainfall mark of 774 mm last month.

Dark clouds hovered over the skyline, and steady rain was witnessed since morning, keeping the city wet throughout the day.

With high volumes of water being released from the Wazirabad and Hathnikund barrages, the Yamuna in Delhi crossed the evacuation mark for the first time this year on Tuesday, and water entered several low-lying areas along its banks, forcing people to move to safer places.

IMD officials said a low-pressure zone has formed over the Bay of Bengal, and it would be more prominent by Wednesday, gathering strength. There is also an upper air cyclonic circulation over Haryana and a Western Disturbance near the Pakistan border.

Because of the interactions of the three weather systems, more rainfall is likely in the next few days across northwest India, the northern plains, and large parts of eastern and western India.

6 die in house collapse

In UP, 16 people were killed in separate incidents of lightning and house collapse as heavy rains continued to pound the state, throwing normal life out of gear in many places.

Six people lost their lives in incidents of house collapse amid heavy rains in the Meerut and Moradabad districts in the past 24 hours. Lightning strikes claimed 10 lives in the Mirzapur, Prayagraj, Pratapgarh, Bahraich and Gonda districts, reports said.

The Met office has predicted heavy rains in many regions, especially in eastern UP, in the next few days.

An orange alert was sounded in the western UP districts of Shamli, Muzaffarnagar, and Saharanpur. A yellow alert was sounded in 22 other districts in the eastern and Avadh regions.

The Chandigarh administration has announced the closure of schools on Wednesday due to inclement weather. The same step has been taken by UP's Gautam Buddh Nagar district administration.

6k gelatin sticks, 2,200 detonators seized in Nashik; 7 arrested

NASHIK, PTI: Police have seized more than 6,000 gelatin sticks and 2,200 electric detonators found stored without permission at a village in Nashik district of Maharashtra, and arrested seven persons in this connection, officials said on Tuesday.

The seizure was made following a raid conducted at Sarul Shivar village in Wadivarhe police station limits on Monday, they said.

"Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided the area on September 1 and recovered 49 boxes containing 6,125 gelatin sticks, 2,200 electric detonators and 150 metre DF Wire, collectively worth Rs 95,750," an official said.

The gelatin sticks with ammonium nitrate and detonators were found stored in a careless manner in houses and tin-sheds behind the houses of accused, he said.

11-member panel to probe elephant deaths in Kerala

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS: Mystery shrouds the deaths of wild elephants in the forest areas of Malayatoor in the rural parts of Kochi in Kerala.

Carcasses of nine wild elephants were found on the Pooyamkutty river over the last couple of months. While the forest department's preliminary assumption is that a herd of elephants could have been washed away in the flash floods in the forest areas, wildlife activists smell a rat as illegal activities and encroachments were allegedly rampant in the region.

Chief wildlife warden (CWW) Pramod G Krishnan has ordered an inquiry by an 11-member team. The team led by Chief Forest Conservator D K Vinod Kumar has been directed to examine whether any illegal activities were taking place in the forests and whether there were any lapses on the part of forest officials.

The CWW told *DH* that even as the preliminary assumption was that the elephants in a herd died following flash floods, the inquiry would look into all aspects to reach at a decision.

Wildlife activist M N Jayacandran said it was hard to believe that elephants were washed away in floods. Kerala has been witnessing vested interest lobbies posing themselves as farmers, making a hue and cry over wild elephants. In such a scenario, the deaths of elephants are mysterious, and a probe is essential to bring out the truth, he said.

Himalayan glacial lakes need urgent monitoring: CWC

AJITH ATHRADY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Central Water Commission (CWC) has said more than 400 glacial lakes within India are showing worrying expansion trends and called for vigorous monitoring because of their potential to unleash sudden floods.

The CWC in its monthly monitoring report of Glacial Lakes and Water Bodies for June 2025 said that "432 glacial lakes (out of 681) located within India as per Glacial Lake Atlas 2023 display an increase in water spread area during June 2025, and hence demand vigorous monitoring for disaster purposes."

These 432 glacial lakes are spread across Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

More than 400 glacial lakes within India are showing worrying expansion trends.

The total glacial lake area in India has grown by over 30% since 2011, rising from 1,917 hectares to 2,508 hectares. There is a 30.83% increase in area. Out of 100GLs, only 55 GLs were considered for this interpretation, the report said.

Stressing the need for urgent preparedness, the CWC recommended the installation of real-time monitoring systems, satellite-based alerts and early-warning mechanisms for downstream communities.

Arunachal Pradesh accounts for the highest number of expanding lakes (197), followed by Ladakh (120), J&K (57), Sikkim (47), Himachal Pradesh (6) and Uttarakhand (5). Overall, the Himalayan region saw 1,435 glacial lakes expand in June 2025.

The findings come in the backdrop of widespread flooding across the country and landslides in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

"Out of 2843 GLs & WBs monitored, 1,435 show an increase in area, 1,008 show a decrease in area, 108 show no change in area and 292 were not able to be analysed from remote sensing data, during June 2025," the report said.

It also called for closer coordination between the Ministry of Jal Shakti, National Disaster Management Authority and state disaster management authorities, alongside transboundary cooperation with Nepal, Bhutan and China, given that many expanding lakes lie across borders but feed Indian rivers.

"Physically, the shrinking of mountain glaciers and expansion of Glacial Lakes are amongst the most recognizable and dynamic impacts of climate warming in this environment," the report said.

Ayyappa conclave: Political gimmick or true devotion?

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Sabarimala, the holy abode of Lord Ayyappa, has once again become a flashpoint in Kerala as the CPM government is all set to organise the Global Ayyappa Conclave on September 20.

The government has touted the conclave as part of a mission to elevate the temple as a global pilgrimage centre; however, the opposition has dismissed it as a political gimmick with the local body and Assembly polls approaching.

A day after reports of the government and the Travancore Devaswaom Board (TDB) succumbing to the pressure of Hindu outfits and deciding not to invite political party leaders to the event, the TDB is now under pressure to change its earlier 'progressive' stand in favour of allowing women of all ages to enter the hill shrine.

BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Sunday asked whether the TDB would 'go against' the top court ruling allowing entry to women of all ages. The board president on Monday said that they would discuss with legal experts and inform the court about the customs and beliefs of the hill shrine.

With the Nair Service Society (NSS) openly expressing displeasure over making it a political event, the state government is learnt to have decided not to invite political party representatives to the event but only invite representatives of devotees and Hindu outfits.

Even as the event was initially projected as one being organised by the state government and the Devaswaom Board, the CPM government is now maintaining that it was an event of the Devaswaom Board only and the government was only supporting it. Widespread criticism of a secular government organising a religious event had compelled the CPM to change its stand.

Now the major challenge that the CPM government is facing is whether women in the restricted age of 10-50 would be allowed to attend the event, especially since Bindu Ammini, one of the two women who entered the temple in 2019, has announced her desire to attend the event.

While Devaswom minister V N Vasavan said only true devotees would be allowed at temple, the CPM is facing a counter campaign over whether Chief Minster Pinarayi Vijayan, who is scheduled to inaugurate the event, is a true devotee.

REEL REVEAL

Wife spots man missing for 7 yrs on Instagram with lover

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

A man in Uttar Pradesh, who was married and had a child, meticulously planned his disappearance in order to live with his lover.

For the past seven years, Jitendra — a resident of Attamau village in Hardoi district and a labourer at a factory in Punjab — remained untraceable, leading his family and others to believe he had died. The police eventually closed the case.

However, an Instagram reel surfaced a few days ago, unexpectedly revealing the truth.

Jitendra's wife Sheelu happened to see the reel and discovered that her 'missing' husband had, in fact, been happily living with another woman. She immediately informed the police, who have now reopened the missing person case and launched a fresh investigation.

According to the police, Jitendra married Sheelu in 2017. A year later, he suddenly went missing. A missing person report was filed, and efforts were made to trace him. At the time of his disappearance, his wife was pregnant.

Sheelu told the police that while browsing Instagram, she came across a reel that appeared to show her husband with another woman. She claimed that he had been living in Punjab's Ludhiana.

A police official in Hardoi confirmed that the matter is under investigation and said Jitendra is expected to be brought back within the next few days.

Bengaluru Wednesday, September 3, 2025 Pages 18 Vol 78 No 244 ₹7

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The Power of Good

Modi, Xi, Putin meet troublesome: Navarro

Trump aide says India must be with Washington, Europe, Ukraine

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Delhi riots: Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam denied bail again P.9

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Cong infighting intensifies amid claims of defections to BJP P.5

World

Afghan quake toll crosses 1,400 P.11

Business

Russia oil gets cheaper for India P.12

B'luru among top 3 cities in breast cancer: Study

Lung cancer most frequently diagnosed in south India

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

DISEASE TRACKER

- Mizoram's capital Aizawl tops chart in cancer incidence rate; B'luru at 6th spot
- Bengaluru women among top 10 in cervical and oral cancer rate incidences
- Among males, mouth cancer was most prevalent followed by lung and prostate cancers
- India had an estimated 15.62 lakh cancer cases in 2024, with a mortality figure of over 8,74,000

Cancer cases among Bengaluru women are one of the highest in the country and the city is among the top three on breast cancer incidences, according to India's most exhaustive analysis on cancer incidence rates and mortalities.

Bengaluru women also figure among the top 10 in cervical and oral cancer rate of incidence. Among males, lung cancer has emerged as the most frequently diagnosed one in the southern region and metropolitan cities, including Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai and Thiruvananthapuram, according to the analysis that used data from 43 cancer registries in India.

Nationally, India had an estimated 15.62 lakh cancer cases in 2024, with a mortality figure of over 8,74,000. This is an increase from 14.6 lakh cases in 2022.

Mizoram's capital Aizawl tops the chart with incidence rates of more than 256 cases for every 100,000 males, and over 245 cases among the same number of women.

In Bengaluru, the incidence of cancer cases among men is around 125 whereas among women, it is around 140. This puts Bengaluru at the sixth spot on cancer incidences among females, as per the analysis done by researchers at the Indian Council of Medical Research.

The ICMR's National Cancer Registry Programme Investigator Group used data from 43 population-based cancer registries between 2015 and 2019 to calculate the estimated cancer cases and trends.

Among the registries, 33 are operated by ICMR's National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research; nine by Tata Memorial Centre and one is managed under the Tamil Nadu Cancer Registry Programme.

The analysis revealed some distinct patterns. Lung cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in southern India and in big cities such as Visakhapatnam, Bengaluru, Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram and Delhi.

▸ Breast cancer, Page 8

ED to see if foreign funds stoking unrest

Begins investigation under FEMA; NGOs under lens

NEW DELHI/BENGALURU/ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

Enter ED

- ED officials said if they find suspicious funding used to create a communal narrative, action will be taken
- Agency examining documents of entities, including NGOs, that could have used "dubious" funds for creating tension
- HM G Parameshwara says ED probe will be on a different angle
- Home minister rejects BJP's demand for NIA probe, says SIT is doing its job

The question of transferring the probe to a different agency arises only when there are errors or mistakes in the probe. The SIT hasn't made any mistakes.

G Parameshwara
Home Minister

Amid twists and turns in the Dharmasthala case, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has started a preliminary investigation into the possibilities of foreign funds being used to trigger communal tension using the controversy surrounding the case.

While officials said the agency has initiated the preliminary investigation under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara said in Bengaluru that he wasn't aware of the ED beginning a probe into alleged funding in the 'mass burial' case.

ED officials said investigators are examining various aspects and if they find dubious funding used to create a communal narrative, action will be taken.

The ED is gathering information by examining documents related to entities, including NGOs, that could have used "dubious" funds for creating tension in society.

With the ED joining the probe, a YouTuber from Kerala could come under the scanner as he was allegedly involved in making fake allegations over Dharmasthala.

Abdul Manaf, from Kozhikode, has been posting videos about the the search for bodies in Dharmasthala. He was accompanying Kannur native Anish Joy, who had raised suspicions over his father's death in an accident in 2018 near Dharmasthala. There are also allegations that Manaf may be behind complainant Sujatha Bhat raising allegations.

Suspicion

Manaf told a section of the media that though he was born in Kerala, he was brought up in Karnataka, where his father was a prominent Congress worker. Moreover, he claimed to have noticed mysterious happenings at Dharmasthala and "owing to his attachment to the people in the state", he was following the Dharmasthala case closely. He also said he was ready to face any punishment if he was found to be involved in any conspiracy.

Manaf was in the news last year after his lorry went missing in the Gangolli river at Shirur following a landslide in which lorry driver Arjun was killed.

Then, too, Arjun's family had accused Manaf of accepting funds by highlighting the tragedy of Arjun's family and trying to increase his YouTube channel's popularity.

In Bengaluru, reacting to the ED's decision, Parameshwara said, "Their angle will be different. I don't know what their terms of reference for the investigation are."

▸ Dharmasthala, Page 8

CM: It's BJP's political yatre

CM Siddaramaiah said the BJP leaders who are terming the alleged mass burial case a conspiracy to defame Dharmasthala, are even supporting reinvestigation in Soujanya case which is against Dharmadikari Veerendra Heggade. He accused the BJP of doing politics. Details on Page 5

Complaint against YouTubers

Activist Prashant S Sambaragi has submitted a complaint to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) alleging that YouTubers interviewed complainant witness in the ongoing Dharmasthala mass burial case, despite the witness being protected under the Witness Protection Scheme. Details on Page 5

Quickly

No respite for North India from rain

Normal life was thrown out of gear as North India continued to be battered by incessant rains on Tuesday, with Yamuna river breaching the danger mark, raising the chances of flood in Delhi. Heavy traffic jams were reported in Gurugram and other parts of the NCR.
Facing Page

Rules relaxed for persecuted minorities

Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who entered India till 31 December, 2024, to escape religious persecution will be allowed to stay in the country without passport or valid travel documents, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs said in a new order.
Details on Page 9

Can Guv, Prez be hauled up for contempt: SC

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought to know as to what would be the consequences if the President or the Governors do not follow the timeline for clearing bills as fixed by this court in its April 8 order, as the hearing continued in the Presidential reference case. The court also expressed doubt over the power to fix straitjacket timelines in case of all bills.
Details on Page 10

Agumbe station chief under scanner

Activists have made serious allegations against Agumbe Rainforest Research Station (ARRS) and its field director Ajay Giri of violating several rules of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.
Details on Page 3B

GBA is born: 5 corporations to govern city; heads named

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru's civic body's office with the new Greater Bengaluru Authority board on Tuesday.

It's official. Bengaluru has become only the second Indian metropolitan city to break away from the traditional model of a single municipal body. The city will now be administered by multiple corporations. On top of this, a newly formed umbrella agency — the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) — will play the role of a coordinator.

New Delhi had experimented with twin corporations in the past, but has reverted to a single body now.

Effecting the "historic" decision, the state government on Tuesday passed a final notification for establishing five city corporations in the Greater Bengaluru Area, which is spread across 721 square kilometres, including Kudlu in Anekal. It will be as big as the now-scrapped Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Moments after the notification was issued, the government appointed new commissioners to the newly carved corporations and posted five senior IAS officers to the GBA. It also passed a series of orders for re-deploying technical and non-technical staff to ensure continuity in the system.

For now, day-to-day life for citizens is unlikely to change much. The five corporations will function independently but continue existing services until individual budgets are presented.

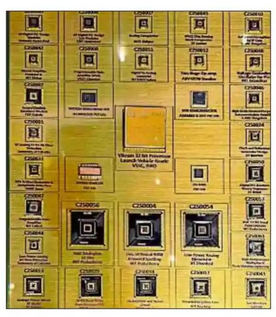
▸ GBA, Page 8

EDIT

A vote for progress and autonomy, Page 6

City to get 500 new leaders: DKS

Praising the constitution of the Greater Bengaluru Authority as a historic move, Deputy CM D K Shivakumar, on Tuesday, said this would give rise to 500 new leaders in the city, hinting that the city could be divided into close to 500 wards. Page 3



The first 'Made in India' processor and test chips.

Vikram, first home-grown chip unveiled

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday unveiled India's first indigenously developed microprocessor, marking a milestone in the country's efforts to reduce dependence on imported chips.

The chip 'Vikram 32-bit processor' has been developed by Isro Semiconductor Laboratory, based in Mohali, Punjab.

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw presented the chip to Prime Minister Modi at Semicon India 2025 event. Vaishnaw said the chip was designed to withstand harsh environmental conditions of space launch vehicles.

Details on Page 12

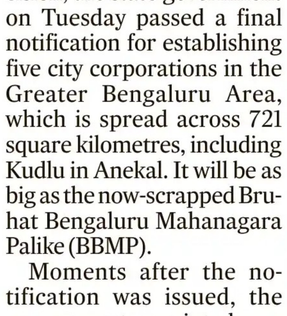
Jarange-Patil ends quota fast as Maha govt gives in to demand

MUMBAI, DHNS: Manoj Jarange-Patil, the man behind the Maratha quota agitation that brought Mumbai to a virtual halt, ended his fast on Tuesday after the Maharashtra government agreed to most of his demands.

The Devendra Fadnavis government issued multiple GRs, which included implementation of the Hyderabad Gazetteer that states Marathas are Kunbis, withdrawing cases against the agitators and offering help to the families of those who died during the course of two-year-long agitation.

The Azad Maidan, which was the ground zero of the protest, is being cleared and protestors are leaving for their villages.

Details on Page 10



Maratha community members celebrate in Mumbai on Tuesday. PTI

RULING THE SEAS

Ships of the First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy comprising INS Tir, INS Shardul and CGS Sarathi arrive at Port Victoria, Seychelles during their long-range training deployment in the south-west Indian Ocean region. PTI

Next-gen reforms in mind, GST Council to meet today

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

'GST reforms will open up economy'

On the eve of the GST council meeting, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the planned roll out of the next-generation GST reforms will open the economy further and make it transparent, with further reduction in compliance burden especially for small businesses. Page 12

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, the top governing body of the country's indirect tax system, is scheduled to hold a two-day meeting beginning Wednesday to decide on rate restructuring and "next-generation" reforms that are expected to make a host of items cheaper and ease burden on small businesses.

As per a notice issued by Revenue Secretary Arvind Shrivastava, the 56th meeting of the GST Council will be held in New Delhi on September 3-4. Revenue Secretary is the ex-officio secretary to the GST Council.

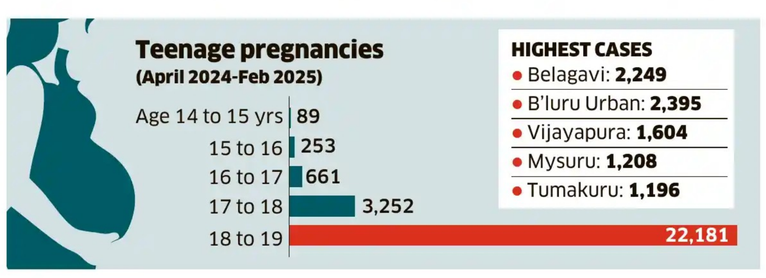
The Council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, is widely expected to scrap 12% and 28% GST slabs and consolidate the items in them with lower rates of 5% and 18%.

▸ GST, Page 8

'PROGRESS' REPORT

As awareness rises, teen pregnancies decline in state

SHILPA P
MYSURU, DHNS



Teenage pregnancies in Karnataka are showing a declining trend, data shows, though an expert cautioned that the numbers are still high and called for more awareness among kids and parents to sustain the progress.

According to data obtained by the Karnataka Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (KCPCR) from the reproductive and child health web portal of the health department, 26,436 teenagers between 14 and 19 years of age, including 4,255 minors (below 18 years), were pregnant between April 2024 and February 2025.

In 2020-21, there were 42,120 teenage pregnancies, including 11,365 minors while the corresponding numbers were 44,631 (11,806 minors) in 2021-22; 49,875 (13,527 minors) in 2022-23 and 39,606 (8,608 minors) in 2023-24. Experts feel that many of these girls between 18 and 19 years of age, who were pregnant, might have got married or conceived when they were minors.

Venkatesh, Member of KCPCR, said they are holding regular meetings with all stakeholders and attributed "increased efforts and awareness" for the decline in teenage pregnancies. "While it has led to more reporting of cases, many cases are still not getting reported as people are still hiding them fearing law and society," he said.

▸ Teen pregnancies, Page 8

State rakes in Rs 16,358 cr, races past excise target for first 5 months

BENGALURU, DHNS: State government's cash registers are ringing, with the government having exceeded its excise revenue target for the first five months of the current fiscal.

As per the data shared by Excise Minister RB Timmapur, between April and August, the excise revenue target was Rs 16,290 crore. The government has mopped up Rs 16,358 crore already. "We have already achieved a progress of 40% as against the target revenue of Rs 40,000 crore expected in the financial year 2025–26," he said.

Details on Page 4

Daily downpour turns roads into bottlenecks; commuters hit hard

BENGALURU, DHNS

With the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing a yellow alert for Bengaluru and parts of South Interior Karnataka, citizens are bracing for continuous rain until September 3.

On Wednesday, the city is expected to see light to moderate showers with gusty winds. Between 4 pm and 7 pm on Tuesday, less than 5 mm of rainfall was recorded.

Over the last two days, spells of rain have triggered waterlogging and heavy traffic across Indiranagar, MG Road, Sahakarnagar, Bellandur, Hebbal, BTM Layout and RT Nagar. The showers on Tuesday evening worsened peak-hour congestion in these areas.

Commuters through Hebbal complained of delays.

"The daily evening rain, especially during the rush hour, has increased my return commute from 30 minutes to over 70 minutes. This has been the case for the last two days," said Akshay, a corporate employee who travels between Hebbal and Seshadripuram.

"Earlier, only the flyover would get crowded, but since the loop opened, even a moderate rain or inconvenience causes jams up to Mehkri Circle," he added.

A waterlogged stretch on Jayamahal Road near Doordarshan on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/BK JANARDHAN

Coolest August since 2019

The IMD said that Bengaluru recorded its coolest August since 2019, with an average maximum temperature of 27.4 °C, against the usual 28.1 °C.

Rainfall stood at 161.8 mm, close to the average of 162.7 mm. "The month was overcast, which kept temperatures low. August 13 was especially cloudy and saw 11.6 mm of rainfall," said an IMD official.

The Shivananda Circle steel flyover, linking Race Course Road and Seshadripuram, too, saw bottlenecks between 6 pm and 8 pm. "The flyover gets worse even with mild rain. The railway underpass floods and adds to the mess. On Monday, I was stuck for more than 20 minutes," said a resident of Seshadripuram.

On the Outer Ring Road, commuters reported 30 to 45 minutes to cover just 2 km on Tuesday. The new double-decker flyover near Silk Board resembled a "swimming pool" on Monday evening, as per user posts on social media.

BDA demands exemption from RERA purview

Allottees warn exclusion will erode accountability

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bangalore Development Authority has urged the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) to exclude the BDA from its jurisdiction, arguing it is a statutory body and not a real estate promoter.

In a written response to a petition over delays in developing the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, the BDA maintained that its projects are government-mandated town planning schemes, not profit-driven ventures.

The Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout.

"Schemes under the BDA Act are aimed at regulated urban growth by forming residential layouts and offering them to the public at affordable prices," the Authority said.

The BDA contended that RERA provisions are framed for private builders, whereas it functions under statutory obligations. It noted that sites are allotted at concessional rates, including for the economically weaker sections, unlike private developers who operate purely for profit.

A clear distinction, it argued, must be drawn between private builders executing smaller projects and the BDA, which undertakes large-scale works. "Hence, RERA provisions cannot apply to the BDA in a straitjacket manner," its submission stated.

The Authority asserted that disputes fall strictly under the BDA Act and the BDA (Allotment of Site) Rules, 1984. "Acceptance of allotment implies consent to these rules. Any grievance must be adjudicated under BDA terms, not RERA."

'There will be no check'

Allottees and activists, however, warned that excluding the BDA would erode accountability.

"Projects are delayed for years. Currently, the BDA can be questioned at RERA. If exempted, there will be no check," said MS Shankar, General Secretary, Forum for People's Collective Efforts (formerly 'Fight for RERA').

Shankar recalled that this was not the Authority's first attempt to bypass RERA. "Earlier, the BDA had appealed to the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry, but the request was rejected. RERA is a central legislation and overrides state laws," he said.

Activists insist that keeping the BDA under RERA ensures transparency and legal recourse for homebuyers. They fear that removing it would leave allottees with limited remedies and allow the Authority to evade responsibility for project delays.

The case before RERA is expected to determine whether the BDA, as a statutory planning body, qualifies as a "promoter" under the Act — a verdict that could set a precedent for government development agencies across Karnataka.

HC rejects PIL for Chikkajala station on metro Blue Line

Court says the issue is not amenable to judicial review

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka High Court has refused to entertain a PIL seeking a metro station at Chikkajala on the under-construction Blue Line of the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL).

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bhakru and Justice CM Joshi said that whether the station is to be constructed at a particular place is not amenable to judicial review under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

The petitioners, CR Naveen Kumar and other residents of Chikkajala, contended that initially the BMRCL had a proposal indicating a station at Chikkajala village along the Blue Line, which connects Central Silk Board and the Kempegowda International Airport. However, in the BMRCL's annual report (2023-24), there is no mention of the station at Chikkajala.

The petitioners claimed that the BMRCL has not responded to the representation filed by the Panchayat Development Officer in July 2022.

The bench observed that a similar PIL, seeking directions for a station at Betta Halasuru village, was rejected in July.

"The question whether a metro station is required at a particular spot in the line not to be examined by this court under Article 226 of Constitution of India. The route map of the metro station and the stops on the metro line clearly requires consideration by the authorities and their decision on the number of stops not to be amenable to judicial review," the bench said.

The court clarified that declining to entertain the petition will not preclude the petitioners from filing the representations. The bench also directed the BMRCL to respond to the representation filed by the Panchayat Development Officer.

In July, a few residents of Betta Halasuru had moved a PIL stating that the original Detailed Project Report (DPR), Phase 2B project and map prepared in 2019 proposed a station at Betta Halasuru. The petitioners said the proposal was dropped since a developer withdrew funding.

Mud collapse: One more labourer succumbs; FIR filed against Embassy Group

BENGALURU, DHNS: Another labourer injured in a mud collapse at an under-construction building in Yelahanka has died, raising the toll to two, officials said on Tuesday.

The deceased is Madhusudhan Reddy (58) from Andhra Pradesh.

On Monday evening, between 4 pm and 4.30 pm, Madhusudhan and J Shiva (32) were trapped when mud collapsed following heavy rain. They were installing rainwater harvesting modular boxes at a site belonging to Embassy Group in Venkatala, Yelahanka, the FIR noted.

Other workers rescued them with an excavator and shifted them to hospital. Shiva was declared dead, while Madhusudhan succumbed during treatment.

The FIR stated that the site in-charge had failed to take safety measures that could have prevented the accident.

14 booked

Following a complaint by Shiva's wife Jogi Saraswati, the Yelahanka police booked the owners of Embassy Group and 13 others, including those from Associate Project Infra and Retas Enviro Solutions Pvt Ltd, under Section 106 (causing death by negligence) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Investigation is underway.

Six, including four rowdies, arrested for abducting realtor

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Central Crime Branch (CCB) of the Bengaluru police has arrested six people, including four rowdies, for allegedly abducting a realtor and extorting Rs 2.9 lakh from him, officials said on Tuesday.

The arrested are Rajesh Kumar alias Appi and JD Mara Appi, 32; Srinivas alias Bombay Seena, 43; Naveen, 35; Lokesh alias Loki, 34; Somaiah, 31; and Yukesh, 28.

Except for Naveen and Yukesh, the others are rowdy-sheeters in different Bengaluru police stations.

The police said the victim Manoj Kumar had lent Rs 1.2 lakh through Rajesh to film director Nanda Kishore. When Manoj demanded the money be returned after a year, Rajesh decided to kidnap him and seek ransom.

"Manoj asked for the loan amount. But Rajesh learnt that Manoj had earned a lot of money in the real estate business recently. So, Rajesh planned to kidnap Manoj and demand ransom," an officer said.

Officials said Rajesh roped in the others and called Manoj to Modi Hospital Road on August 26 on the pretext of returning the money and abducted him.

He was taken in a car, driven around Nelamangala, Dobbaspet and other places, kept hostage in a lodge, threatened and made to transfer Rs 2.96 lakh. He was released the next day after the suspects demanded another Rs 10 lakh.

After contacting his family, Manoj approached the police and filed a case. The CCB police have booked the case on charges of kidnapping and extortion.

Homeowner booked for renting house to foreigners without submitting docs

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Parappana Agrahara police in Bengaluru booked a homeowner for renting her house to two foreigners without notifying the police or submitting mandatory documents.

The CCB raided a house in Chudasandra on August 26 and rescued two Ugandan women illegally residing there. The house owner, Ambuja, had not provided the police the required papers. She is currently at large.

The case has been registered under the provisions of the Foreigners Act.

Bengaluru Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh urged residents to follow procedures while renting or leasing houses to foreigners.

"The homeowner did not submit Form-C, which is mandatory. Police were not informed. We are appealing to follow legal and mandatory provisions when renting to foreigners. Failing which, legal action will be taken on both landlord and tenant."

Students booked for assaulting collegemates after Onam revelry

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Soladevanahalli police have registered a case against a group of college students for allegedly assaulting and harassing a female student and her friends on Monday evening in Achuthanagara.

In her complaint, the victim said the incident occurred when she and a friend went to 3rd Cross, Achuthanagara, to get juice for another friend who had collapsed after Onam celebrations.

A group of students from the same college, allegedly drunk, began dancing on the road and passing obscene and abusive comments. They also tried to rag the students.

When the complainant objected, one of the suspects, Albin, allegedly removed his shirt and punched her in the chest with both hands, causing her to fall to the ground. Soon after, another student named Navaneeth, along with others, joined in the assault against the complainant and her friends who came to her rescue.

A case has been registered at the Soladevanahalli police station.

Nigerian arrested for peddling MDMA worth Rs 2.3 crore

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bagalur police arrested a Nigerian national and seized MDMA valued at Rs 2.3 crore during an operation on Monday.

Based on a tip-off, the police tracked Chigozie Udeoha Anselam, 38, between Santhe Circle and the road towards CMR College.

He was apprehended on September 1 and booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

During interrogation, he admitted to procuring the drug at a low price from an unidentified source and selling it at a higher rate.

Bangalore chapter of National HRD Network elects new committee

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bangalore Chapter of the National HRD Network held its annual general meeting and elections recently.

The executive committee for 2025-2027 was elected.

The newly elected committee members are: Swati Rustagi (President), Kasturi Cotha (Vice-President), Naganagouda SJ (Hon Secretary), Malathi KS (Treasurer), Anuradha Mahesh (Joint Secretary), Lalita Gowda (Member), Moumita Mahapatra (Member), Nandeesh Hiremath (Member), and Sonu Gupta (Member). The committee also includes Chapter Manager Mehak Kozgar.

"The election of the new executive committee signals a renewed commitment to engage deeply with members, contribute meaningfully to the HR fraternity, and inspire the next generation of leaders," a press note from the organisation stated.

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

State-level Debate and Speech Competition Finals: WordBattle Karnataka; Gandhi Bhavan, Kumarakrupa Road; 10 am.

Lecture: 'Three Great Women Warriors of India'; Government Arts College, HSR Layout; 11 am.

50 Years in Fertility Treatment: Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao to attend; Gunasheela Surgical and Maternity Hospital, Basavanagudi; 11.30 am.

CULTURAL

National Symposium: 'Folklore Studies–New Possibilities', Launch of Lok Folk Quarterly Magazine, Art Exhibition; Ramahat Tarikere to inaugurate; Karnataka Folk Academy, Department of Kannada Language, Jain University; JGI Knowledge Campus, Jayanagar; 12 pm.

Photograph Exhibition on Hirebenakal: HK Patil; Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage and Department of Tourism; Venkatappa Art Gallery, Kasturaba Road; 6 pm.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thundershowers

TEMPERATURES

Maximum	27.0°C
Minimum	20.0°C
Rainfall (as of 8:30 am)	0.6 mm
Humidity (as of 5:30 pm)	78%
Sunset (Sep 3)	6:30 pm
Sunrise (Sep 4)	6:09 am
Moonrise	2:18 pm
Moonset	12:50 am

(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm) Source: IMD

Seshadripuram Public School hosted its seventh Model United Nations (MUN) Conference on August 11, bringing together 240 delegates from different schools across Bengaluru, Puducherry, and Kalaburagi. PHOTO: SESHADRIPURAM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Government of Jharkhand
JHARKHAND FLYING INSTITUTE
A Society Regd. Under Department of Cabinet Secretariat & Vigilance (Civil Aviation Division)
State Hangar, Birsa Munda Airport, Hinoo Ranchi-834002
E-mail-jfi.govtfly@gmail.com, Website-www.jharkhandaviation.in

Ref. No.: JFI / Employment-25/2025-274, Dated : 02.09.2025

Jharkhand Flying Institute (JFI) administrative office located at Birsa Munda Airport, State Hangar, Ranchi and Operational Base at Dumka, is an autonomous body registered under the Society Registration *Act, 1860*. The administrative control is governed by department of Cabinet Secretariat & Vigilance Department (Civil Aviation Division), Govt. of Jharkhand.

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced candidates for the following positions in JFI with attractive remuneration:-

(1) Chief Flying Instructor (CFI) (2) Flying Instructor Aeroplane (FIA) (3) Ground Instructor (GI) (4) Dy. Maintenance Manager (Dy. MM) (5) Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) (6) Continuing Airworthiness Manager (7) Chief Security Officer-cum-Admin (8) Sr. Operation Manager (9) Asst. Operation Manager (10) Safety Manager (11) Administrative and Ops. Manager (12) Sr. Technical/Liaison Officer (13) Sr. Technician (14) Technical Officer (15) Technician (16) Store Keeper

Interested candidate may visit our *website-www.jharkhandaviation.in* for details and submit their resume at *e-mail:employment.jfi@gmail.com,* Last date of receipt of application is 18th of September 2025.

Sd./-
(Managing Director, JFI)
Govt. of Jharkhand

PR 361042 (Civil Aviation) 25-26 (D)

JANATHA SEVA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
No. 24, Suvarna Bhavana, 1st Main Road, Hampinagara, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560104.
Phone No.: 23300497, 41159606, 23359600 Email: vjn@jscbl.com

Tender – cum – Auction Sale Notice

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER SECURITISATION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

C.Gangadhara Murthy

Kusuma. R.

Whereas, **1. Mr. Gangadhara Murthy.C S/o Chennigappa and 2. Kusuma R W/o Gangadhara Murthy C, Both Residing at** No. 322, 3rd A Cross, 2nd Block, 3rd Stage, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079 having failed to repay the debt in respect of borrowing from **Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd. Vijaynagar, Bangalore.** The total amount due and payable by them jointly and severally as per the agreed terms and conditions is **LOAN A/C NO. 1.MTL/69 Rs.8,16,21,190/- (Rupees Eight Crore Sixteen Lakhs Twenty One Thousand One Hundred and Ninety Only.) & 2.MTL/154 Rs.4,02,50,672/- (Rupees Four Crore Two Lakhs Fifty Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Two Only.) Total Outstanding Rs.12,18,71,862/-(Rupees Twelve Crore Eighteen Lakh Seventy One Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Two Only)** as on **29.08.2025,** along with interest at the applicable rate and costs thereon.

Whereas the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the mortgaged property including those more fully described hereunder, and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Description of Property	Date & Time of Opening Tender and Place of Auction	Reserve Price and EMD
The Immovable House Property bearing Municipal Katha No. 11 (11, 11/1 & 11/2) Old No. 7, Situated at 13th Corss,1st Main Road, Vasanthnagar, BBMP Ward No. 78, PID No. 78-100-11, New PID No. 093-M0044-115, Bangalore-560052 and Measuring East to West : 50 feet and North to South : 90 feet, Total Measuring 4500 Sq.ft. and bounded : East : 13th Cross Road, West : Site No. 06, North : Main Road, South : Site No. 08.	**09.10.2025 at 11.30 AM** **At the Bank Premises Janatha Seva Co Operative Bank Ltd Vijayanagar Branch: No 24 "Suvarna Bhavana" 1st Main Road, Hakka Road, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560104.**	**Rs.13,43,21,000/- (Rupees Thirteen Crore Forty Three Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Only)** **EMD: 10% of the Reserve Price Rs.1,34,32,100/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Four Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand One Hundred Only)**

Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale: -

(1) The Tender form can be collected from **Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd. No.24, "Suvarna Bhavan" 1st Main Road, Hakka Road, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore. (ph. 080-23300497, 41159606)** on all working days during office hours. **(2)** The intending bidders should submit their bids in the prescribed tender form in closed cover along with EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price by means of Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order drawn in favour of **Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd., Bangalore-** payable at Bangalore. The Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order shall be drawn after the date of publication of this Tender- cum-Auction Sale Notice. **(3)** Tenders not in the prescribed format will not be accepted. **The tender along with the EMD shall be submitted at Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd., Vijayanagar, Bangalore** latest by **08.10.2025 before 05.00 PM.** Tender without EMD shall be summarily rejected. **(4)** The property **"SHALL NOT"** be sold below the reserve price. **(5)** In case the bidder is not successful the E M D amount shall be refunded without interest. **(6)** The EMD amount shall be liable for forfeiture without prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Auction Sale. **(7)** The sealed tenders will be opened by the Authorised Officer in the presence of the available / attending bidders at **11.30 AM on 09.10.2025 (8)** After opening the tenders, the intending bidders may be given opportunity at the discretion of the Authorised Officer to have, intense bidding amongst themselves to enhance the offer Price. **(9)** The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the Sale Price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale Price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction. **(10)** The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues / taxes / charges / property tax / E B charges / water charges / conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws. **(11)** The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all of the tender or/ bid / offer and/or adjourn/ postpone / cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice. **(12)** The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank. **(13)** The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between **10.00 AM and 5.00PM** at his/her expenses at the address mentioned in the Schedule. **(14)** The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION".** The intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title, ownership, statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property. **(15)** In case of stay of further proceedings by DRT/DRAT/High Court or any other court, the auction may either be deferred or cancelled and persons participating in the sale shall have no right to claim damages, compensation or cost for such postponement or cancellation. **(16)** This is also notice to the (Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors) aforesaid loan about holding of auction sale on above mentioned date if their dues are not repaid in full, other terms and conditions applicable as per the Act.

For further details the intending bidders may contact the Authorised Officer, Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd. (Head Office), Bangalore-560104. No.24, "Suvarna Bhavan" 1st Main Road, Hakka Road, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560104, (ph. 080-23300497, 23402712, 23359600) E-Mail: vjn@jscbl.com. Mob:9916738709, 9945052783, 9742327028.

Date : 02.09.2025
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Janatha Seva Co-Op Bank Ltd

How Greater Bengaluru Authority came into being

July 2023: Government constitutes Brand Bengaluru Committee under the leadership of retired IAS officer BS Patil.

July 2024: The state government places the draft of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act before the Legislative Assembly. It is then passed on to a House committee.

March 2025: The Council passed the act with a few amendments.

APRIL 2025: Government publishes the Act through a gazette notification.

July 2025: Government announces the decision to constitute five corporations. The boundaries are notified.

May 2025: The Greater Bengaluru Governance Act comes into force.

August 2025: Greater Bengaluru Authority is constituted.

Panel to draw ward boundaries in 3 months

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, who also holds the Bengaluru development portfolio, speaks to media persons about the Greater Bengaluru Authority on Tuesday.

Move crucial to hold polls; GBA chief commissioner heads the committee, to be aided by three members

BENGALURU, DHNS

The state government has formed a four-member delimitation commission to draw ward boundaries of the newly-carved corporations, which come under the Greater Bengaluru Area. The government has set a three-month deadline to complete the task. The exercise is crucial to hold elections to the five municipal corporations.

In an order issued on Tuesday, the delimitation commission will be headed by the Chief Commissioner of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). He will be assisted by three members: the senior-most commissioner of the five corporations, deputy commissioner of Bengaluru Urban district, and special commissioner (administration, revenue and information technology) of the GBA.

The September 2 order states that the government has formed five corporations as per the provisions of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024.

In its affidavit submitted to the Supreme Court, the government had promised to complete delimitation work in a month's time.

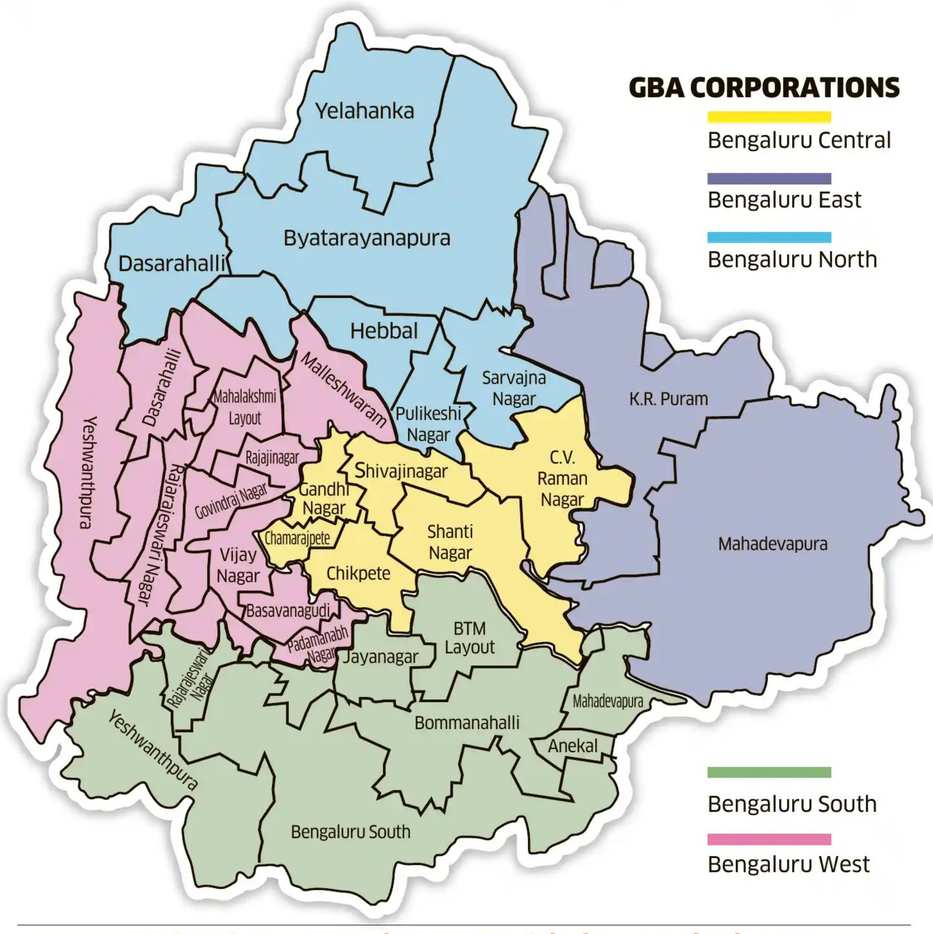
Until the newly carved ward comes into force, the five corporations will continue to operate as per the existing wards.

While Bengaluru Central City Corporation comprises of 42 wards, Bengaluru East City Corporation will have a total of 17 wards, including part of Bellandur. Bengaluru North City Corporation comprises a total of 41 wards and Bengaluru South City Corporation will have 37 wards, including part of Hemmigepura. Bengaluru West City Corporation has the maximum number of wards. That is 64, including part of Hemmigepura and RR Nagar.

In the guidelines, the government has pointed out that population, geographical size, population density, revenue potential, non-agricultural activities, and employment activities must be taken into account while drawing up the boundaries. It has also set an upper limit on the number of wards each corporation should have, which is not more than 150.

As per the 2011 census, the population within the BBMP limits was 85 lakh, but the number has increased to 1.44 crore, according to the 2023 electoral data.

The government order states that the wards must be delimited based on the 2011 census, but allows for a deviation of up to 25% to ensure the population is distributed evenly across wards.



Maheshwar Rao is GBA's chief commissioner

M Maheshwar Rao, a 1995-batch IAS officer has been appointed as chief commissioner of the Greater Bengaluru Authority(GBA). He will also play the role of an administrator of all five corporations in the absence of an elected body.

Special commissioners

Munish Moudgil: Special Commissioner (Administration, Revenue & IT)

Harish Kumar K: Special Commissioner (Finance)

Suralkar Vikas Kishor: Special Commissioner (Health & Education)

Preeti Gehlot: Special commissioner (Elections, disaster management and coordination)

Five city corporation commissioners

Bengaluru Central: Rajendra Cholan P

Bengaluru East: Ramesh DS

Bengaluru North: Pommala Sunil Kumar

Bengaluru South: Ramesh KN

Bengaluru West: Dr Rajendra KV

Three-tier governance structure

Greater Bengaluru Authority: It is on the top of the hierarchy.

Five corporations under this: East, West, North, South & Central.

Wards

GBA to make way for 500 new leaders

BENGALURU, DHNS

Hailing the constitution of the Greater Bengaluru Authority as a historic move, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday said that this would give rise to 500 new leaders in the city, hinting that Bengaluru could be divided into close to 500 wards.

"Every corporation can be divided into a maximum of 150 wards. If we consider that each corporation will have 100 wards on an average, this will make way to groom 500 new leaders. Of these, 50% will be women," Shivakumar said.

With five corporations, the government has also increased the number of divisions in the city from 27 to 50 and number of sub-divisions from 75 to 150.

He added that the GBA would work in accordance with the 74th Amendment of the Constitution.

He also opined that the new governance structure will be citizen friendly and will help decentralise administration.

Each corpn to have an office with unique architecture

All the five corporations in the city will have a dedicated office and the architecture of each of these offices would be similar. The groundbreaking ceremony for these buildings will be held on November 1, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said.

He added that the government intends to have a unique architecture for the corporation offices and has announced a Rs 5 lakh reward for those who submit the best design. That apart, the government is also planning a new logo for the GBA and has invited suggestions from the public. The name board at the BBMP head office was changed as Greater Bengaluru Authority.

Leaders residing in Bengaluru made members of GBA

Speaking about the addition of Yathindra Siddaramaiah and Nazeer Ahmed as members of GBA, DyCM DK Shivakumar said that all the MPs, MLAs, and MLCs who are residing in the Greater Bengaluru area or have been elected from here have been added to the GBA.

"Maybe Yathindra has a vote here. I don't know," he said.

UPS & DOWNS OF BBMP

The Fake Bill Scam from 2008 to 2011 stands out as one of the earliest and most damaging corruption scandals in the BBMP's post-2007 history. In constituencies such as Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Malleswaram and Gandhinagar, duplicate or fictitious bills worth over Rs 1,500 crore were submitted for the same road, drain, or footpath work.

Bengaluru's core areas were transformed after the BBMP launched the TenderSURE project in 2011, turning the chaotic and vehicle-centric roads into pedestrian-friendly, well-planned urban streets.

The2012 garbage crisis, following a prolonged protest at the Mandur landfill, was a landmark moment in the city's civic history. Subsequently, the BBMP set up five plants to process the waste.

Perhaps for the first time, the BBMP introduced the white-topping project in 2016 as a method to extend road life and reduce maintenance costs by using concrete instead of traditional asphalt.

The advertisement scam, running to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore, was a major civic scandal that led to the Karnataka High Court imposing a complete ban on outdoor advertising hoardings in Bengaluru in 2018.

In 2022, the Anti-Corruption Bureau uncovered irregularities around Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) where bogus landowners received TDRs for lands they didn't own and TDRs were issued without acquisition, site inspections, or legal verification.

Indira Canteens were launched in 2017 as a flagship welfare initiative to provide affordable meals to the urban poor.

Voter theft scandal broke out in 2023, where NGO Chilume was found collecting sensitive data in the guise of running a voter awareness campaign

In 2020, Bengaluru underwent a major governance reform with the introduction of the BBMP Act, 2020, marking a clear departure from being governed under the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976.

The e-khata initiative launched in October 2024 is being hailed as a significant step towards digitising and securing property records, besides bringing transparency in real estate transactions.

Two IPS officers for restructured posts

BENGALURU, DHNS: In line with the restructuring of posts from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), the state government has posted two IPS officers to restructured positions in the Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF).

The move comes into effect immediately and will hold until further orders.

According to a notification issued by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (Services), Roopa D IPS, currently Additional Director General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force, has been posted as Additional Director General of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF), Greater Bengaluru Authority; and Mutharaju M IPS, currently Superintendent of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force, has been posted as Superintendent of Police, Bengaluru Metropolitan Task Force (BMTF), Greater Bengaluru Authority.

The posts of Additional Director General of Police and Superintendent of Police in the BMTF have been declared equivalent in status and responsibilities to the cadre posts of Additional Director General of Police, Law and Order, and Superintendent of Police, Intelligence, respectively, under Rule 12 of the IPS (Pay) Rules, 2016.

BBMP to close 13 bank accounts

BENGALURU, DHNS: As the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has ceased to exist, a decision has been taken to close as many as 13 bank accounts and transfer the closing balance to the main account.

For the time being, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) will take control of the 73 remaining bank accounts until the new system takes off.

The BBMP also noted that there are about 205 other bank accounts maintained by the different departments, including hospitals, schools and the forest wing. These accounts will continue to be used.

GBA bars staff using BBMP login to clear approvals

BENGALURU, DHNS: As a lot of mischief is likely to take place during the transition, the GBA has issued an internal order directing its staff from using the BBMP's e-office login to clear files.

It has directed the engineers to use the new login to access the system when they are ready. The order, issued by GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao, stated that no files be cleared using the e-office login of the BBMP, starting from September 2. The BBMP's login will, however, remain active so that the files can be sent to the respective corporations for further decision.

"We are creating a new software and login access for the technical and non-technical staff of the newly carved five corporations," the order stated.

What can be noted is that the BBMP had been issuing a large number of tender notifications just before the GBA came into effect. Now, the responsibility of clearing files and processes have been handed over to the corporations.

Patients at govt hospitals to get ISKCON-cooked meals

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Health Department, in collaboration with ISKCON, launched a five meal-a-day programme for patients admitted in KC General Hospital, Sir CV Raman Hospital, and Jayanagar General Hospital on Tuesday.

It was inaugurated at Sir CV Raman Hospital, Indiranagar, by Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao.

The general diet plan includes nearly 70 grams of protein. In place of egg, ISKCON is providing soya chunks.

Rava upma, broken wheat porridge, and pongal are usually served as breakfast. A robusta banana (big banana) is given as a mid-morning snack. Ragi balls of medium size, rice, sambar, and soya chunks are served in the afternoon. Tea and biscuits are provided in the evening. Chapathi, rice, vegetable curry, vegetable sambar, and soya chunks make up the dinner.

For patients with renal issues, the protein content is around 60 grams. Their menu is largely similar, except robusta bananas are replaced with buttermilk and sprouts are included at breakfast.

For pregnant women and lactating mothers, the plan ensures extra nutrition and food that supports milk production. They are given 200 ml of milk with a banana as a mid-morning snack, chikki in the evening, and oranges at dinner. Children are served milk twice daily — with a banana, chikki or biscuits.

Avenues

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Fair? Parents debate school fees

Private schools cite mounting expenses, while parents urge govt to keep an eye on managements collecting 'unreasonable' amounts

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

Parents complain that high school fees exclude transportation, books, and uniforms. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

Two viral posts have reignited the debate over the spiralling cost of private education in Bengaluru. On Friday, a Reddit user shared a pre-school's annual fee of over Rs 1.85 lakh, asking if it was "reasonable". On Sunday, a post on X highlighted the yearly fees at an international school: Rs 7.35 lakh for Class 1, rising up to Rs 11 lakh for Classes 11 and 12. The user wrote that even an IT couple earning Rs 50 lakh a year might struggle to afford such a school for two children.

The Associated Managements of English Medium Schools in Karnataka (KAMS) finds blanket criticism unfair. Its general secretary D Shashi Kumar says, of over 5,000 private schools in Bengaluru, only 0.5% charge Rs 5 lakh or more. About 90% charge Rs 30,000-50,000, 5% are in the Rs 50,000-1.5 lakh range, and the rest between Rs 1.5 lakh and Rs 5 lakh. In Bengaluru, a fee range of Rs 75,000 to Rs 1.25 lakh is "reasonable for schools offering well-rounded facilities and services", he adds. But he blames parents for opting for expensive schools as a 'status symbol', and for blindly equating higher fees with better education.

Kumar adds that private schools have no cap on fees but must limit their surplus profits to 15%. However, B N Yogananda, president of the Karnataka Private School College Parents Association Coordination Committee, says the process for fixing the fee structure is not transparent. "Twenty-one states have fee determination committees, but lobbying in Bengaluru has stalled the plan here. Schools must submit the fee structure to these committees to verify they match per-child expenditure," he says.

Location matters

Besides paying power, the choice of school also depends on location, pedagogy, and seat availability, parents say.

Kathak teacher and actor, Manasa Joshi, couldn't find a "decent preschool" under Rs 1.5 lakh within 5 km of her home in Padmanabhanagar. "Cheaper ones were just halls in someone's house," she says. Her daughter is two years and seven months old. She now sends her to a Montessori school that charges Rs 1.8 lakh, excluding travel.

A Yeshwanthpur security guard is "forced" to pay Rs 50,400 towards his Class 7 son's private school fee as the government school near his home is "always full".

Entrepreneur Suresh (name changed) moved to Gunjur, near Varthur, because the area is a hub for IT firms and schools. "I want a school within a 5-10 minute drive so my daughter isn't stuck in a school bus for hours," he says. But he says all the "good" primary schools in the vicinity charge above Rs 2.5 lakh. To cut costs, he plans to admit his daughter directly to Class 1, skipping LKG and UKG. "She will continue at her current daycare. The fee is covered by my wife's company," he adds.

A school teacher notes that some migrant families stretch their budgets to afford international schools that don't mandate Kannada as a second language. With their transferable jobs, they feel the local language offers little long-term value to their child's education.

'Exclusionary environments'

Parents are calling for a cap on school fees, especially in lower classes. A parent from Jalahalli objects to tuition fee hikes of 10-15% every alternate year. Her daughter's Class 6 fees of Rs 2.64 lakh accounts for 20-25% of household expenses. Another parent criticised new-age schools for profiteering, recalling how he had to pay a non-refundable admission fee upfront for pre-nursery, LKG, and UKG. A C V Raman Nagar resident fears that unchecked fees can create exclusionary environments where children lose the chance to interact with peers from diverse backgrounds.

'Definite costs'

Prarthana Gupta, who runs a south Bengaluru academy, says private schools have many "definite costs", with rents and teachers' salaries being the biggest. Counselling services, extracurricular activities, and annual renewals of government-mandated permits add to the burden. Kumar of KAMS says the set of over 40 government compliances cost Rs 15-30 lakh in the first year. Despite perceptions, Prarthana says many schools aren't profitable; hers broke even only after 15 years and is running slightly under capacity.

Nooraine Fazal, founding managing trustee of Inventure Academy, an international school in Whitefield, says schools should disclose a projection of fees from KG to Class 12 to help parents decide if a school is fit for them. But she emphasises that good education comes at a cost. "We spent Rs 1.5 crore on teacher training and development last year," she says. And it was their corpus fund, she notes, that helped them get through the pandemic without layoffs.

POPCORN

Name shastra

So the BBMP is history. We now have five corporations in place of one, and they are together called Greater Bengaluru Authority. A question many are asking: Couldn't they find a Kannada name for 'greater'? And what exactly is going to be greater? Citizens are hoping it's not the traffic jams, the bribes and the commissions that will go from great to greater. As for the Kannada name, try something like Hiriya Bengaluru or Hire Bengaluru? It is hi-ray, ladies and gentlemen, not 'hire' as in 'hire a consultant'. And it's also a word that denotes age and wisdom.

EVENTS

Karnatik concert
A Karnatik vocal concert by T M Krishna will commemorate the golden jubilee of the International Music and Arts Society at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur on September 4, 7 pm. For details, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org.

Tree walk
Kavya Chandra, a nature educator, will lead a tree walk in Mahalakshmi Layout on September 7, 10.30 am. Details on @blrcreativecircus on Instagram.

Festival on freedom
Indian Music Experience museum, J P Nagar, is hosting 'Azaadi Music Festival' until September 7. It features a mix of free and paid events on the theme of freedom. Details on indianmusicexperience.org.

Bharath Dingri's team performed in Bengaluru last week.

Songs of resistance this weekend

TEAM METROLIFE

Thousand River Blues, a performance based on songs of resistance, will be staged on Sunday. It is being organised by Halgi Culture.

The event will feature songs by literary personalities Siddalingaiah, Kotiganahalli Ramaiah, K B Siddaiah, Madduri Nagesh Babu, Dayanand, and Rajappa Dalavai. Dalit student activist Rohith Vemula's letter will also be read as part of the performance, which has been designed by Bharath Dingri.

Dingri, who has been drawn to music aesthetics since childhood, wanted to showcase the songs and rhythms of Dalit culture. "Dalit culture and its aesthetics and celebration can be experienced through our music and the sounds of our instruments. The songs are very powerful. We are bringing rap, songs and poetry together in the form of a band on stage," he shares.

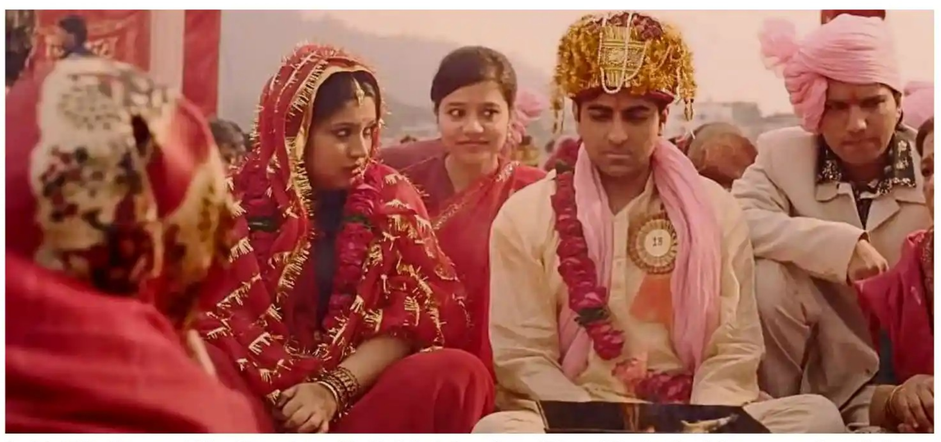
Halgi Culture is an art collective that champions the tamate, a percussion instrument. They conduct tamate workshops throughout the year.

On September 7, 6.30 pm, at Jangama Collective, R R Nagar. Tickets online.

'Not beautiful enough', a ruse for more dowry, wife abuse

Activists say married women are mistreated over their skin colour, weight and height

TINI SARA ANIEN
TEAM METROLIFE



In 2015 Bollywood film 'Dum Laga Ke Haisha', Sandhya (Bhumi Pednekar) faces emotional abuse by her husband Prem (Ayushmann Khurrana) for being overweight.

Recently, Shilpa Panchangamatha, a techie, was found dead at her home in southeast Bengaluru in what police suspect to be a case of dowry harassment. Her family alleged she was body shamed and humiliated by her in-laws, *DH* reported last week.

According to women's rights groups, appearance-linked abuse within marriages has increased in Bengaluru. Four relationship counsellors told *Metrolife* that over five years, they have seen a 10-15% rise in women seeking help for harassment based on complexion and physique. These women were in their 30s and 40s.

Technical writer Nandita (name changed), 39, recently divorced, recalls her husband mocking her wheatish skin and straight hair, and his mother demanding gold and money for the same reasons. Kanika Sharma (name changed), 31, an arts teacher, sought counselling "to save her marriage of eight years" but walked out after realising she was facing abused for not being the body type her husband desired.

Comments after childbirth

Of the 8-9 distress calls Global Concerns India receives each month, about 60% involve appearance-based complaints.

Its founder-director Brinda Adige says: "After women describe the violence they faced to us, the conversation eventually shifts to comments husbands made about their looks. They are subjected to taunts comparing their current appearance to how they looked on their wedding day. Such remarks surface not just in the first year of marriage but even after 15 years," she says.

This year alone, Durga India has around 100 domestic violence and dowry-related complaints where the woman's skin tone, weight, height, or post-childbirth changes was cited as triggers. Its founder Priya Varadarajan says five years ago, only 10-15% cases involved mistreatment because of looks; today it's around 25%.

Pragya Singh, founder of Atijeevan Foundation, says her organisation extends support to 12-15 domestic violence and dowry-linked cases every year, with 20-30% connected to appearance.

Demographics

Tabassum Ara, coordinator with Vimochana, says 10% of about 400 dowry-related cases now involve appearance. Five years ago, that percentage was half. She says, "Men in their 30s-40s mock their wives' bodies, comparing them to cattle. Or, they demand four-wheelers from their in-laws because the wife is too big to sit on a two-wheeler."

According to Priya, in love marriages, such complaints typically surface after childbirth, or when husbands claim loss of attraction or seek intimacy elsewhere.

Harassment is not confined to the uneducated, Brinda stresses. "We have dealt with IT professionals, and even doctors," she adds.

Such abuse cuts across class. Pragya notes that in lower-income families, "it shows up as financial coercion and physical violence", while in middle- and upper-income homes, it turns into relentless taunts or becomes a matter of reputation. "Women are pushed into skin-lightening procedures or crash diets," she adds. They are also compared to former partners or online personalities. Their electronic devices are confiscated.

Need psychosocial support

Pragya says women aged 22-35 speak out within the initial years of marriage, while others seek help when their children are older or when they attain financial independence.

Only 8% of survivors of such abuse approach family courts and barely 1% go to the police, says Brinda. Priya adds that 5-6 complaints reach the police annually, with most survivors opting for counselling or mediation.

Pragya stresses the need for psychosocial care, safety, and economic rebuilding for such women.

CITY MIX

150-plus stalls at queer fest

The seventh edition of Maya Bazaar, a festival celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community and its allies, will be held at Jayamahal Palace Hotel Grounds on September 13 and 14. This year's theme is 'Come Out'. The festival will host over 150 stalls run by queer, women, and ally-owned businesses, a concert by an all-women hip-hop collective, and several drag acts. Panel discussions will question whether society has progressed on inclusivity. Details @_maya_bazaar on Instagram.

Indian art in focus

'India in Nature: Traditions and Transformations', a group art show and market featuring the fine art forms of India will be held from September 5 to 7 at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. It is curated by Srila Chatterjee, the founder of Mumbai-based Baro Art. Around 40 artists will showcase works from art forms such as thangka and pichwai to gond, warli, bhil and sohrai. A number of contemporary works will also be on display. For details, call 98865 99675.

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Reading thriving: B'luru gets two new libraries

One is dedicated to the design of the city, while the other is geared towards children

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

Over 135 kids dropped in on the opening day of the children's library at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur.

Bengaluru's list of libraries just got a little longer with two launches in the last weekend.

Blr Reads, a reference library dedicated to urban design, was opened at the Blr Design Centre on Church Street, while a children's lending library was launched on the premises of Bangalore International Centre (BIC) in Domlur. The latter is a pop-up library which will be open every Sunday.

Spotlight on city

Blr Reads is perhaps the only public library in the city with a focus on the design and culture of Bengaluru. The 1,200 sq ft space is stocked with books on different aspects of the city — from architecture to history and urban transition.

"We have been collecting information on the city since we opened the MOD Foundation in 2010. We did not have the opportunity or space to make that information public until now," says Amritha Ganapathy, research associate at the Foundation. She has curated the library along with Roshini Muralidhara, who works as a research associate at the library. The work of the Foundation, which runs the Blr Design Centre, is centred on understanding the city and its various faces.

A total of 550 books occupy the library's shelves, which have been categorised into sections such as architectural practices, photography, and urban design and theory. A large number of design magazines, economic journals, illustrated journals and other periodicals dating back to the '80s are also part of the collection. "Visualisation is an important feature, especially for members who are from backgrounds that require it — such as architects and designers," Amritha says. A section of fiction books with Bengaluru as a central theme can also be accessed at Blr Reads. Additionally, the library boasts a collection of physical and digital maps of Bengaluru, and a few other Indian cities. "The oldest physical map we have is from 1948," Amritha shares, adding that the larger goal of setting up the library is to create an interdisciplinary community for the exchange of ideas.

A digital repository of their books will be available soon. Currently, one can reserve books through their website blrdesigncentre.com. The library is open on weekdays, from 10 am to 6 pm. Memberships start at Rs 2,000 a year.

Space for young readers

Vikram Bhat, director, BIC, always had a deep interest in education. While the programming at BIC is diverse and robust, the offerings for kids below 15 were sporadic, Bhat explains. He felt it was time to create a more permanent space for children to explore their interests.

The space is located in a corner of the old library and features over 800 books. "We hope to add about 400 more in the future," Bhat shares. The BIC team has collaborated with Champaca Bookstore to curate the books. They comprise a mix of graphic novels, chapter books, picture books and board books, which cover genres such as fantasy, science and environment. On opening day, August 31, over 135 kids dropped in, Bhat shares. "We want to create a community space for kids and parents to read together," he adds.

Apart from books, a tinkering corner and an art corner will enable children to explore other hobbies.

Kids can stop by at the library to get a membership card. Membership is free of cost. For details, call 91108 28140.

205 GPs to get high-speed broadband under Samruddhi project

BENGALURU, DHNS: Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge on Tuesday said that the government had selected 205 gram panchayats under the Samruddhi Gram Panchayat Project (SGPP).

The goal is to provide high-speed internet to rural areas using optical fibre cables (OFCs).

According to a statement from the minister's office, Kharge said the SGPP was designed to implement telecom-based digital infrastructure in rural areas.

This, he said, will facilitate delivery of digital services, while also expanding economic opportunities in underserved regions.

To ensure effective implementation of the scheme, the government will constitute Digital Access Committees in each of the GPs.

"These committees will include technical experts, local elected representatives, and members of Panchayat Raj Institutions. Their primary purpose is to raise awareness about the benefits of high-speed broadband access and ensure its optimal utilisation at the grassroots level," the statement said.

NMC approves 400 more MBBS seats for Karnataka

50 seats each to 8 med institutes; to be added to pool in second round

BENGALURU, DHNS

In a good news for aspiring doctors, Karnataka has received 400 more MBBS seats which will be added to the pool in the second round of seat allotment.

With this a total of eight government colleges, including Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Sciences, Chikkaballapur Institute of Medical Sciences and Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences-Kalaburagi, have got 50 additional seats each.

Considering the request by the state government, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has approved the additional seats this year.

Karnataka had requested for enhancement of seats at 15 government medical colleges but the NMC had rejected the request citing infrastructural issues.

However, now considering the undertaking given by the government, the NMC has approved enhancement of seats at eight colleges. With this, the total seats available in Karnataka has crossed 9,663 as against the earlier sanctioned seats of 9,263.

The seats requested at Bidar, Chamarajanagar, Gadag, Karwar, Koppal, Mandya and Shivamogga institutes of medical sciences have been rejected. For Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences and Atal Bihari Vajapayee Medical College and Research Centre, the NMC has approved 50 seats though the government had sought 100 seats each.

Along with this, the NMC has approved the enhancement of 50 seats at JGMMMC Hubli, Deemed-to-be university.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) officials clarified that these seats will not be available for fresh option entry.

As shared by KEA Executive Director Prasanna H, "The students who have got medical seats in round 1 and opted choice 2 and paid course fees, and those who have opted choice 3 and paid caution deposit, the system will consider them for allotment automatically." KEA will add these seats and re-run the system.

The KEA has released the provisional results for round 2 and is waiting for the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) to complete its second round seat allotment as per the revised schedule on September 12.

"Now, there are high chances of colleges allotted in the provisional results will be changed with the addition of 400 seats," added the official. Only in case of addition of new colleges, then the candidates will be allowed to do fresh option entry.

The eight government medical colleges which have been allotted additional 50 seats are - Belagavi, Chikkaballapur, Gulbarga (Kalaburagi), Hassan, Mysuru, Raichur and Vijayanagara institutes of medical sciences, and Atal Bihari Vajapayee Medical College and Research Centre.

Ire over derogatory term against B'luru women in Malayalam film

BENGALURU, DHNS

A Malayalam film 'Lokah Chapter 1: Chandra' has triggered outrage on social media for using derogatory terms to represent girls from Bengaluru. One of the characters in the film addresses Bengaluru women as 'dagar,' a Kannada colloquial term which means a promiscuous woman.

Wayfarer Films, the producers, on Tuesday, issued a statement that they would remove the controversial dialogue immediately.

"A dialogue by one of the characters in our film has unintentionally hurt sentiments of people from Karnataka," the statement said.

"In the film, the dialogue is delivered by a character called Nachiyappa Gowda, a bad guy who is shown as a god-fearing, entitled male who (we can assume) looks at free-spirited women as sluts. His boss is a woman and he hates her ordering him around. So as a creative choice, the line holds, and the slur comes naturally," said a cinephile who watched the movie.

Interestingly, the use of the word in a sexual connotation has its roots in Kannada cinema.

"It's not a Kannada word. There is no specific etymology," well-known linguist Meti Mallikarjun told *DH*. The word has been in use only for the last 20 to 30 years after Jaggesh and Upendra popularised it in films.

"Even the word 'figure,' an English word, is used in a negative or sexual connotation against women. Terms like this when used to address men don't have a negative connotation," Mallikarjun said.

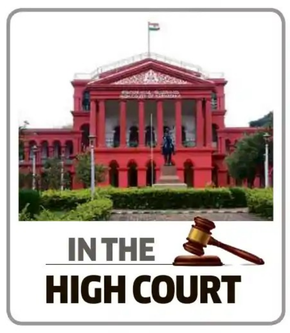
The said word has also been used on social media as a means of character assassination against female actors. In 2022, Rashmika Mandanna called out trolls for addressing her with the derogatory term on social media. The Malayalam film has also faced backlash for not representing Kannadigas authentically.

We'll examine & take action: B'luru police commissioner

Bengaluru city police commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said if false information is provided deliberately, action will be initiated. He was responding to a query on the use of the derogatory term in the Malayalam flick, referring to women from Bengaluru. "We will check it. The Central Crime Branch will examine it and take necessary action," he said.

Courts must not permit DNA tests for the asking, says High Court

Quashes order by civil court at Channarayapatna



BENGALURU, DHNS

The courts must not permit DNA tests for the asking, unless the condition stipulated in section 112 of the Evidence Act is fulfilled, the high court has said.

The court answering an application must bear in mind the interwoven delicate balance between the test, right to privacy, and dignity, as ordained in the Constitution of India, Justice M Nagaprasanna said while quashing the order passed by a civil court at Channarayapatna in Hassan district, which permitted a DNA test in a partition dispute.

The dispute pertains to a 2016 partition suit filed by A S Umesh and A S Lokesh, sons of A C Sanne Gowda. The defendants in the suit are Sanne Gowda, his second wife Lakshmamma and their son Harish Kumar.

The petitioner Harish Kumar moved the high court challenging the order of the civil court for DNA test. He submitted that the plaintiffs (Umesh and Lokesh) had filed an application under Order XXVI Rule 10A of the Civil Procedure Code (CPC) seeking DNA tests of three defendants to determine blood relation and paternity by way of scientific examination. On April 5, 2025, the civil court allowed the application, despite the objections of the defendants, Sanne Gowda and Lakshmamma.

It was argued on behalf of Harish Kumar that there is ample evidence to show that the marriage occurred between Sanne Gowda and Lakshmamma and that the order permitting DNA test is violative of his rights under Articles 19 and 21 of the Constitution of India.

On the other hand, Suresh and Lokesh argued that a DNA test has already been conducted and the report is yet to be placed before the court.

The court perused various judgements in the matter and said that the Apex Court had cautioned that compelling such tests without imminent need, imperils not only the sanctity of marriage, but legitimacy of the child and also becomes violative of the fundamental rights to privacy and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution.

"Section 112 of the Indian Evidence Act is steeped in the maxim pater est quem nuptiae demonstrant – the father is he whom the marriage indicates, which would mean the presumption of legitimacy of a child born during lawful wedlock. The blood test – DNA test must be permitted only in terms of the rigor of Section 112 of the Evidence Act, which would be a demonstrable non-access during the period of birth of the child, as the presumption under 0020 of Section 112 is rooted in public morality and societal peace," Justice Nagaprasanna said.

"In the case at hand, a plethora of marital disputes existed between defendants 1 and 2 for ages. The child is born from the said wedlock. The concerned court has blissfully ignored this fact. Therefore, the courts answering the application shall strictly adhere to the law, as narrated in the course of the order," the court said, declaring null and void all consequential proceedings, including DNA examination and any report prepared thereto.

TOO SMALL FOR THREE

A family walks under umbrella as skies open up in Yadgir on Tuesday evening. DH PHOTO

KSTDC land lease period for 60 years, not 30 years: ROHL

BENGALURU, DHNS

The Royal Orchid Hotels Limited (ROHL) has said the leasing of 2.19 acres of land at Domlur from Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) has not led to undue profit.

Responding to the *DH* report titled 'Govt set to lose Rs 600 crore in Bengaluru lease deal' dated August 30, ROHL said the company had made sacrifices to resolve the matter of lease renewal.

As per the government order, the original lease expired after 30 years, in 2022.

DH reported that the lease was renewed at 2% of gross income, which was cheaper when compared with the rent (about 24%) the company paid for two hotels in Mysuru.

DH had also reported on the letters written by KSTDC to the government, recommending scrapping of the original lease due to violation by ROHL through sub-letting and inviting tenders for leasing the land.

In response, ROHL denied the charge of subletting and claimed that the lease was not for 30 years, but 60 years.

"The KSTDC had leased the land for 60 years from 1992. As per the lease deed, the rent was fixed till the 40th year, i.e till 2032. The lease was to be renewed at the end of the 30th year, i.e 2022 and the rent for the balance 20 years i.e from 2032 to 2052 was to be mutually decided," it said.

The previous annual lease rent was Rs 2.76 lakh and the new lease rent will be approximately Rs 1.1 crore per year "an increase of 40 times," Chander K Baljee, managing director of ROHL, said in a note.

Responding to the higher lease amount for Metropole Hotel and Brindavan Hotel, the company said both were management contracts obtained through tender.

"ROHL has constructed a hotel on the land (2.19 acre) after borrowing a huge loan and the loan is still outstanding to be paid," it said.

'Confer K'taka Ratna on Vishnu, Saroja Devi'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Actor and former minister Jayamala, actor-turned-politician Malavika Avinash and actor Shruthi Krishna met CM Siddaramaiah on Tuesday requesting him to confer the Karnataka Ratna award on actors Vishnuvardhan and B Saroja Devi.

It is the highest civilian award conferred by the Karnataka government.

They also requested the CM to rename Malleswaram's 11th cross road as Dr Saroja Devi Road. The actor resided there for many years till her death in July.

"The CM was very receptive and willing to consider the request that we made. He said he had to consult his Cabinet colleagues to pick a candidate for the Karnataka Ratna and place the same before the Cabinet on September 4," Malavika told *DH*.

Additionally, irrespective of when the title will be conferred, a request was made to announce it on Vishnuvardhan's 75th birth anniversary on September 18.

The actors will also meet Tushar Girinath, additional chief secretary of the Urban Development Department, with regard to renaming of Malleswaram 11th Cross.

Speaking about government not conferring the Karnataka Ratna award on both actors, despite being veterans, all these years, Malavika said, "I don't know why successive governments have not thought about it, especially in the case of Vishnuvardhan. It has been 15 years since his death. Maybe there has been no such official request made, these things need to be spoken about and discussed."

"He was more than a father figure to me," she added.

'110 acre of TGR buffer zone area illegally allotted to industries'

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB) has been accused of violating the Tippagondanahalli Reservoir (TGR) catchment area's buffer zone as well as the approved industrial layout in Sompura, Nelamangala Taluk.

In a complaint to Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot, activist Dinesh Kallahalli said officials of the KIADB and the Commerce and Industries Department have recommended 110 acres of the of sensitive area within the TGR catchment buffer zone to the State Level Single Window Clearance Committee.

He said the KSPCB order in 2003 gives details of the survey numbers in the TGR catchment area buffer zones. The KIADB had stopped allotment, lease-cum-sale and building approval in such lands. Instead, an additional area was acquired to develop the Sompura Industrial Area of which 150 acres were reserved as buffer zone and green belt.

"However, about 110 acre of that land has been converted for industrial purposes and allotted to 70 companies. This is in direct violation of the NGT order stating that at least 33% of the industrial areas should be reserved as green belt," Kallahalli said.

According to complaint, KIADB also violated layout plan submitted while obtaining environment clearance and permissions from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board. The plan had demarcated areas for green belt, open spaces and buffer zones.

To a question, Commerce and Industries Principal Secretary S Selvakumar said he has asked officials in the KIADB to look into the matter and submit a report.

Minister: Will resolve confusion on Maitri classification

BENGALURU, DHNS

Karnataka Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs K H Muniyappa on Tuesday reiterated the state government's commitment to resolving the confusion surrounding the issuance of certificates denoting the community's name as 'Maitri'. Muniyappa said that the issue would be discussed in the upcoming Cabinet meeting.

Interacting with reporters at the Vidhana Soudha, Muniyappa said that, although the Maitri community comes under the umbrella of the Madiga caste, members have incorrectly been classified under the Maitri category in official documents.

Assuring everyone that he would discuss the issue with the Chief Minister, Deputy CM and the Minister for Social Welfare, Muniyappa added, "Since 1980, certificates issued have incorrectly mentioned the name of the caste as 'Maitri' depriving many of education and employment opportunities. The Justice Nagamohan Das Commission's report has confirmed that Maitri is a part of the larger Madiga community. However, officials continue to deny members of this community proper certificates."

Muniyappa

The Maitri community slots in as the 59th most backward group, said Muniyappa, adding that instructions would be sent to all Deputy Commissioners to ensure accurate documents were issued to members of the community.

"The state government will ensure justice is done to all 10 1 Scheduled Cases. We are also contemplating separate reservation categories for nomadic communities," said Muniyappa, adding that the state government would also look into the possible inflation in the number of Mogera community members.

CM may seek Bhovi Corpn chief's resignation after 'bribe video'

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is considering seeking the resignation of Karnataka Bhovi Development Corporation chairman S Ravikumar after the latter was caught on camera purportedly demanding bribe.

In a sting operation widely aired on news channels on Monday, Ravikumar was heard demanding cuts from beneficiaries of land purchase scheme under the corporation.

What's the scheme?

Under the scheme, women landless agricultural labourers belonging to the Bhovi community are given assistance to purchase up to two acres of dry or one acre of irrigated land.

The corporation provides a 50% subsidy and the rest through a term loan.

BJP state president B Y Vijayendra likened it to "the fence eating the crop" and demanded a Lokayukta investigation.

HDK's reaction

Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy of the JD(S) said the Bhovi corporation joined the Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation as "a corruption hotspot".

"The so-called 'empowerment' boards for small communities have turned into ATMs for the corrupt," he said.

Illegal photography: Agumbe research station, its field director violated rules, say activists

PAVAN KUMAR H
HUBBALLI, DHNS

Wildlife activists have made serious allegations against Agumbe Rainforest Research Station (ARRS) and its field director Ajay Giri of violating several rules of the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre on Tuesday issued orders to investigate allegations pertaining to encroachment of forest land in Someshwara wildlife sanctuary, illegal construction of permanent structure in the eco-sensitive area, illegal entry into protected areas for photography and capturing scheduled species for commercial photography among others.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) P C Ray says he has asked field officers in Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru to conduct an enquiry and submit a report.

Social activist Dinesh Kallahalli told *DH* that ARRS had illegally constructed permanent structures inside Someshwara wildlife sanctuary, an eco-sensitive zone. He charged that Ajay Giri had been encouraging wildlife photographers to photo shoot and video record king cobras, a schedule–I species, during their combat, mating and nesting season.

"I have inputs that Ajay Giri used to keep these captured snakes at the research station and help photographers click staged pictures. These photos are available on their social media pages," Kallahalli said.

Another activist Nagaraj Kove said ARRS had encroached on the forest land. He accused ARRS and Kalinga Rainforest Centre for Ecology, run by herpetologist Gowri Shankar, of misusing their research permission to accommodate guests and helping them venture into protected areas. "This is a violation of rules. They have permission to study species and not to turn research stations into resorts and homestays to allow elite photographs of endangered and endemic species by trespassing into forest areas at night," he said.

Dinesh and Nagaraj said they were basing their complaint on social media posts by the researchers and wildlife photographers.

Nagaraj questioned Ajay's ethics as 2.37 acres of revenue land had been bought in his wife's name in a village adjacent to Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary.

"The piece of land is said to be next to myristica swamps, highlighting the ecological importance of the area," he said.

Refuting the charges, Ajay said neither ARRS nor he had not kept king cobra or any other animal in captivity.

DINESH KALLAHALLI
Social activist

"I have inputs that Ajay Giri used to keep these captured snakes at the research station and help photographers click staged pictures. These photos are available on their social media pages.

"As part of our human-animal (conflict) mitigation studies, we rescue snakes in the presence of forest department officials and locals. The snake is scientifically released into the wild as close as possible to the site of capture," he said.

He said that the photos posted by the activists are from 2018 when wildlife photographer Pradeep Hegde and others had received permission from the forest department to shoot for the Wild Karnataka documentary, and the video is from 2023 and not 2025.

P C Ray said he had received multiple complaints against Ajay and an enquiry had been ordered. "Officials will look into the kind of permission Ajay has received and the kind of work he has been doing. If we find any violation of rules, action will be taken," he said.

Excise dept collects 40% revenue within 5 months of this fiscal year

Minister credits officials' efficiency in plugging leaks

BENGALURU DHNS

Five months into the current financial year, the state government has not only met but exceeded its excise revenue target. Karnataka Excise Minister R B Timmapur, sharing data compiled by his department, said that, against the stated revenue target of Rs 16,290 crore for the months of April through August, the state had collected Rs 16,358 crore.

"Our overall target for the 2025-26 financial year is Rs 40,000 crore, and we have already collected more than 40% of our annual target," said the minister.

Pointing out that the state had collected Rs 68.78 crore above its target for the first five months, Timmapur credited the department's success to the officials, whom he lauded for plugging leaks in the system.

"Moreover, we have initiated disciplinary action against 31 Group 'A' officials, 20 Group 'B' personnel and 43 Excise Sub-Inspectors for negligence," the minister added.

Timmapur said that preventing entry and sale of narcotics in the state would further bolster excise revenue. "Those bringing spirit powder in small packets, which they use to make huge volumes of liquor must be identified and dealt with sternly. Officials have been instructed to strictly enforce the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act," the Excise Minister added.

A digital system allowing excise licence to be renewed online once every five years would be rolled out soon. "This will help curb corruption, and ease the process for issuing CL-7 licence," added Timmapur.

Orders have been issued to implement 95% of the 62 recommendations made by the Administrative Reforms Commission, added the minister.

Karnataka has collected Rs 68.78 crore above its target for the first five months, according to Excise Minister R B Timmapur.

Meanwhile, Timmapur said that 93,751 liquor, 13,453 litres of toddy, 4,257 litres of illicit liquor, and 7,503 litres of jaggery wash had been confiscated following raids on illegal liquor manufacturing units.

Timmapur said that the government would not open any new MSIL outlets, adding that the licence of deactivated MSIL outlets, and other stores, would be auctioned. "Of the 579 defunct licences, 74 are for CL2 stores," said the minister.

Dip in beer sales

There has been a dip in the sales of beer in the first five months of 2025-26 compared to the previous year. While 207 lakh litres of beer were sold between April and August 2024, the figure for the corresponding period in 2025 is 164 lakh litres. Meanwhile, 285 lakh litres of Indian Made Liquor (IML) have been sold in the first five months of the current fiscal year.

Since the price of the premium liquors in Karnataka is a bit high compared to neighbouring states, the government is contemplating revising the rates, said Timmapur.

Gold smuggling: Ranya may face penalty up to Rs 102 cr

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA
BENGALURU, DHNS

Kannada actor Ranya Rao may face up to Rs 102 crore in penalties for smuggling gold into the country, top sources have said.

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) on Tuesday issued show cause notices to Harshavardini Ranya alias Ranya Rao and her three accomplices, Tarun Konduru Raju alias Virat Konduru, Sahil Sakariya Jain and his uncle Bharath Kumar Jain. The four are lodged at the Parappana Agrahara central prison in Bengaluru.

"The show cause notice has been issued proposing the confiscation of 14.2 kg plus 103 kg gold, smuggled earlier by the accused," a top DRI source told *DH*.

"Penalty under the Customs Act has been proposed for all four who are part of the smuggling syndicate".

According to the source, the maximum penalty Ranya may face is Rs 102 crore. For Raju, the maximum penalty would be Rs 62 crore; for Sahil and Bharath, who helped dispose of the gold and initiated hawala transactions, the maximum penalty would be Rs 53 crore each.

"The penalties are yet to be adjudicated. The show cause notice is answerable to the additional commissioner or joint commissioner, airport customs," sources said.

The criminal proceedings will continue separately, they said. The accused have remained in jail for over a year now.

The Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA Act) advisory board, under Section 8 of the Act, had recommended that the provisions invoked previously should remain against the suspects.

Ranya, 33, was arrested on March 3, 2025, after she flew into Bengaluru from Dubai. According to the DRI, she was found carrying 14.2 kg of foreign-origin gold bars worth Rs 12.56 crore on her person.

Raju, 36, a US citizen, was arrested by the DRI six days after Ranya was caught red-handed. Raju, as per the DRI, maintained close ties with the actor and was her associate in the smuggling.

Sahil, 27, the third suspect and a jeweller from Ballari, who allegedly helped Ranya dispose of the gold, shared the proceeds from the sale and helped in hawala transactions, was arrested on March 26. Bharath, 52, a jeweller and an alleged hawala dealer, was arrested in July.

DH CHANGEMAKERS TO WATCH IN 2026

Nominations Open

Each year, DH recognises extraordinary people who persevere and overcome difficult odds to usher in change.

Since the DH Changemaker awards were launched in 2019, we have identified 150-plus trailblazers from across Karnataka in areas such as community empowerment, health, conservation, entrepreneurship, and the arts.

This year, it is time to begin our search for 15 Changemakers -- we seek to highlight their efforts, celebrate their achievements, and share their stories. On New Year's Day in 2026, we will publish print, web and video stories about these achievers.

We invite nominations from readers starting today. Send in details of individuals (below 45) and teams that you think deserve the Changemakers title and honour.

The last date for submitting nominations is September 18, 2025. Scan the QR code to make a nomination.

State to lose Rs 85k cr per year if GST rationalisation comes in: Minister

State govts will be reduced to 'glorified municipalities': KBG

BENGALURU, DHNS

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda claimed on Tuesday that the proposed new GST rate rationalisation will cause Karnataka an additional loss of Rs 15,000 crore, in addition to the Rs 70,000 crore being lost currently.

"How can any state government have autonomous administration if there are such losses? No government can function without revenue. Should we stand with folded hands before the Centre? Should we run the government based on whatever they give? If it happens like that, what's the meaning of state government? This will be a namesake government, but in reality a glorified municipality," he told a press conference on the eve of the GST council meeting.

"The union government says that if this is rationalised, income will rise due to revenue buoyancy. However, ever since the GST was introduced, each rationalisation has led to decline in income. Before GST, 6.1% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) used to come from central excise and Value Added Tax (VAT). It dropped to 5.8% later. Similarly, Karnataka used to derive 3.6% of its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) from VAT. It dipped to 2.9% later."

"More than 50% was used by companies for their profit. This has been shown by studies by GST council. The profit should completely go to people. If you don't do that and only do rationalisation, corporate companies will benefit in the name of the people."

Gowda, who will represent the state in the GST council meeting on September 3 and 4, explained the math behind how the state government had lost Rs 70,000 per year due to GST system.

Gowda said "progressive" states like Karnataka and TN were suffering due to GST system, where tax collected by these states goes as settlement (IGST) to other states.

Explaining why states like Karnataka, TN, Maharashtra and Telangana had progressed, he said: "We have physical infrastructure and human resources, because of which capital has come here. We have ensured social welfare. We aren't getting everything that's produced here. If our hands and legs are tied, won't the country suffer?"

BJP team poses queries to BC panel on upcoming survey

▸ **BENGALURU, DHNS:** With less than a month left for the Social & Educational Survey to begin, a delegation of BJP leaders on Tuesday met BJP backward classes commission chairperson Madhusudan R Naik and asked him a bunch of 15 questions regarding the feasibility and the accuracy of the proposed exercise.

The delegation urged the commission to adequately study the errors of the previous Kantharaj Commission's survey and the Jayaprakash Hegde Commission's report based on the said survey, and make suitable changes.

Stating that the Nagamohan Das Commission took over over two months to survey 17% population (SC population in the state), the delegation wondered whether the commission's plan to conduct the survey in 15 days was practical.

They took severe exception to castes such as "Kumbara Christian," "Kuruba Christian," 'Madiwala Christian," "Brahmin Christian" and so on. "Why have these castes been added? They should immediately be dropped."

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In the matter of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008, Section 13 (3) AND In the matter of **UNIQUEHIRE CONSULTING LLP** having its registered office Shop No. 486, 1st Cross, ASHWATH NAGAR MARATHAHALLI, Bangalore, BANGALORE, Karnataka, India, 560037. Petitioner

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the LLP proposes to make a petition to Registrar of Companies, Karnataka under section 13 (3) of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 seeking permission to change its Registered office from the state of "Karnataka" to the state of "Telangana".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the LLP may deliver or cause to be delivered or send by Registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition supported by an affidavit to the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka, , within 21(twenty one) days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the petitioner LLP at its registered office at the address mentioned above.

For and on behalf of **UNIQUEHIRE CONSULTING LLP**

SHOBHARANI VARLA
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Change of Name

I, TANMAYEE H SHANKAR, daughter of Umashankar H N, residing at #2525 17th main 27th Cross Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bengaluru - 560070, have changed my name from TANMAYEE H SHANKAR to AISIRI UMASHANKAR, vide affidavit dated 29-08-2025 before Notary D.K. Rameshappa, Bengaluru. Henceforth, I shall be known as AISIRI UMASHANKAR for all purposes.

I, GUNTOOR SAJJARAYAPPA MOHAN R/a #63, Nithyashree Nilaya, Rangarao Road, Shankarapuram, Bengaluru-04, have changed my name to MOHAN GUNTNUR SAJJARAYAPPA, vide affidavit dated 02.09.2025 before Notary Mamatha N.K., Bangalore. Henceforth I shall be called MOHAN GUNTNUR SAJJARAYAPPA only.

I, PRIYA Kalyanasundaram Shanbaga @ K.S.Priya @ Priya. K.S. W/o.Hari Arumugam Residing At No.919, 17th Main, 3rd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore- 560010, have changed my name to PRIYA KALYANA SUNDARAM vide affidavit dated: 01.09.2025 Sworn before notary: Onkarappa N R, Bengaluru

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CHANGE OF NAME
I, **USHA BAI**, residing at No. 2, 114/1, 4th Cross, New K G Layout, Katriguppe, Benglauru - 560085, have changed my name to **USHA RAO** vide affidavit dated 02-09-2025 sworn before notary V. Rajashekhara, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be called as **USHA RAO** only

Lost

I, BHOLA Kumar S/oChandra Bhushan Prasad,MN Guru Gokulam Flat No 409, M.S Nagar Rd, AgraharaBadavane, Bellahalli,Bangalore 560064. Have lost my D-Pharma 1st Yearmarksheet with Reg No.Z864012 on 02.09.2025 atSampigehalli Bangalore. In this regard a policecomplaint has been lodgedreport no 1779929/2025.Contact;- 9845786731

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Cong infighting intensifies amid rumours of defections to BJP

Rajanna heading to saffron party, claims Magadi MLA

BENGALURU, DHNS:

Senior lawmaker K N Rajanna's sacking from the Cabinet is still rocking the Congress' boat as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy DK Shivakumar's men engaged in a public spat on Tuesday over possible defections to the BJP.

Rajanna, a Siddaramaiah confidant who was cooperation minister, was sacked last month based on a directive from the Congress high command. Rajanna had almost ridiculed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's "vote theft" campaign.

On Tuesday, Magadi MLA H C Balakrishna, a Shivakumar loyalist, claimed that Rajanna would join the BJP. Rubbishing this, Rajanna's son Rajendra, an MLC, said his father's detractors may be the ones who will jump ship.

"I have information that Rajanna has applied for an entry into the BJP. If the Congress was not in power, Rajanna would have joined the BJP already. Wait for a few days and see for yourself," Balakrishna said, adding that his information about Rajanna holding talks with BJP was "100%" true.

Rajanna, who belongs to the ST community, had a feud with Shivakumar, a Vokkaliga.

Balakrishna maintained that Shivakumar had nothing to do with Rajanna's sacking.

"He was sacked because of his statements against the high command. He just wants to pin the blame on [Shivakumar]," Balakrishna said.

Rajendra hit back at Balakrishna. "He's trying to impress someone, hoping that he'll be made a minister if there's a Cabinet reshuffle," Rajendra said, adding that his father will not quit Congress.

Without naming Shivakumar, Rajendra said: "Rajanna isn't the one who sang the RSS' prayer in the Assembly, or wore shorts to attend RSS camps."

'September Revolution'

Rajendra went further to claim that Balakrishna and others may head to the BJP. "This is the September Revolution that Rajanna was talking about," he said.

"The revolution is that they (MLAs) will go if [Shivakumar] is offered the chief minister's position."

According to Rajendra, his father is being targeted because he is Siddaramaiah's supporter. "We'll always be with Siddaramaiah. We get votes because of Siddaramaiah, not anyone else," Rajendra said.

A section of pontiffs has sought time to meet the Congress' top brass to press for Rajanna's return to the Cabinet, Rajendra said.

"We will brief the high command about the conspiracy. We're hopeful that Rajanna will be taken back into the Cabinet," he added.

Asked about Balakrishna's claim on Rajanna jumping ship, senior BJP leader C T Ravi said: "I won't respond to speculation."

Absurd, says BJP on govt plan to buy chopper, jet for VIP travel

'To splurge taxpayers' money, they are hiking taxes & prices'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Senior BJP leaders – state party president B Y Vijayendra and Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka – came down heavily on the Congress government over reports of its plan to purchase a helicopter and a private jet for VIP travel on Tuesday.

Both Vijayendra and Ashoka, in their posts on X, described the move as "absurd," "shameful," and a clear reflection of misplaced priorities.

Vijayendra, in a post on X, alleged that despite the state government struggling to meet essential financial obligations, it is proceeding with the extravagant purchase of a "5-seater helicopter and 13-seater jet".

"There is no money for development works, no money to launch new schemes; even government employees are not being paid on time, while the CM's relief fund does not reach patients fighting life-and-death situations on time. They can't even pay the basic pension for freedom fighters. In such a pathetic financial condition, this @INCKarnataka government's setting out to buy a '5-seater helicopter and 13-seater jet' is the height of absurdity," he said.

The state BJP president said, since coming to power, the Congress government has drained the state's treasury on extravagant self-promotional events.

"After the Congress came to power, it's been all about luxurious programmes. They emptied the state treasury to organise events just to show off their self-importance. To splurge taxpayers' money, they are constantly increasing taxes and prices of daily-use items. Congress will never remember that people give them power to serve the public". Calling for focus on public issues, he urged the government to withdraw from the aircraft purchase and prioritise urgent development work.

In a separate post, Ashoka highlighted the crumbling public transport infrastructure and financial crisis. "They've ruined transport corporations and are auctioning bus stands. Now, buying a helicopter and jet is both ridiculous and shameful," he said.

WARM WELCOME

Member of erstwhile royal family Pramoda Devi Wadiyar welcomes President Droupadi Murmu during her visit to the palace in Mysuru on Tuesday. Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot looks on.

Govt ignored Justice Das commission's recommendations: BJP

BENGALURU, DHNS

The internal reservation matrix approved by the state Cabinet on August 19 ignores several key recommendations made by the Justice H N Nagmohan Das Commission, alleged Scheduled Caste (SC) leaders from the BJP.

Chitradurga MP Govind Karjol urged the state Cabinet, which is scheduled to meet on September 4, to approve and implement the report submitted by the Justice Das Commission or J C Madhuswamy report if the government wanted to ensure social justice.

Accusing the Congress government of ignoring the interests and welfare of the nomadic communities, Karjol said, "We will launch a statewide stir to protest this flawed internal reservation matrix from Wednesday. The Congress government has ignored the Supreme Court's directive, and the classification system employed by the government is clearly politically motivated. Given the confusion surrounding this issue, recruitment to various government departments that have begun must be halted immediately."

The BJP's internal reservation matrix, which recommended 6% reservation for the Madiga community, 5.5% to the Chalavadis, 4.5% to Lambanis/Bovis/Korama-Korcha and 1% for nomadic tribes had met with broader community acceptance, claimed Karjol. "The Congress government spent Rs 150 crore on the Justice Das report, only to discard it," said Karjol.

Former Union Minister A Narayanaswamy accused the Congress government of betraying the Madiga community. "Siddaramaiah has classified nomadic tribes with 'touchable' castes, and failed to follow Constitutional principles," said Narayanaswamy.

Dharmasthala: Siddaramaiah asks BJP to clarify its position

MYSURU, DHNS: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said that the BJP leaders supporting Veerendra Heggade on alleged Dharmasthala mass burial case are also seeking re-investigation in Soujanya case which is against Heggade and hence the party should clarify who is being favoured.

He was speaking to media persons in Mysuru on Tuesday.

"Soujanya case was investigated by the CBI, which is under Centre's control. Now BJP leaders are saying that they would support Soujanya's family to move the Supreme Court. They are only taking political advantage. I have not seen what is there in the CBI report related to Soujanya case. It is up to Soujanya's mother to decide about going on an appeal to the Supreme Court," he said.

Replying to a question, Siddaramaiah termed BJP's Dharma Yatre as a "Politics Yatre."

He said that Heggade himself had welcomed the SIT probe. "Let truth come out and suspicion or allegations against Dharmasthala be cleared. The investigation is being conducted independently and we are not interfering with it," the chief minister said. He added that BJP should not use everything for politics.

Activist complains to SIT against YouTubers

MANGALURU, DHNS: Activist Prashant S Sambaragi has submitted a complaint to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) alleging that YouTubers interviewed complainant-witness in the ongoing Dharmasthala mass burial case, despite the witness being protected under the Witness Protection Scheme.

In his complaint, he said the deliberate act of releasing the interviews immediately after complainant-witness was taken into custody by SIT shows a pre-planned strategy and criminal conspiracy. The entire sequence of events establishes that the interviews were not accidental or coincidental but were pre-meditated, coordinated, and executed with the intention of interfering in the investigation and obstructing the justice process," the complaint said.

"Such videos have already reached several viewers and are creating widespread confusion among the public regarding the investigation and the credibility of the witness," he said.

The SIT in its acknowledgement of the complaint stated that the issue will be examined during the course of the investigation. Meanwhile, sources in SIT said the team was examining several new documents from a fresh perspective. The team has conducted a few additional inquiries and thoroughly reviewed facts and other related matters to gain deeper insights into the case.

As part of the investigation, mahazar was carried out at Ujire and Belthangady.

DIRECTORATE OF MINORITIES
Maulana Azad Bhavan, No.16C, Miller Tank Bund Road, Vasantnagar, Bengaluru - 560 052.

No: Dom/DEVP/RS/CR-22/2025-26 Date: 01-09-2025

Announcement of Short Term Tender

Short term Tender has been invited by the Directorate of Minorities through GEM Portal in Two Cover mode for Supplier to supply "Karate Uniform" to the Minority Residential Schools/ Colleges in the academic year 2025-26. Details are given below. Interested bidders should apply through online mode under GeM Portal.

Sl. No.	No. of Details	Date/Time
1.	Date of Tender Publication	03.09.2025
2.	Tender Amount:	Rs. 250.00 Lakhs.
3.	EMD Amount:	Rs.3,75,000/-
4.	Pre-bid meeting:	09.09.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
5.	Last date and time for submission of tender:	18.09.2025 by 5:30 p.m.
6.	Date and time of Technical bid opening:	20.09.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
7.	Date and time of Financial bid opening:	23.09.2025 at 11:30 a.m.
8.	Place of tender opening and contact address:	Maulana Azad Bhawan, No.16C, Miller tank Bed Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 560052.
9.	Telephone No. to be contacted	080-22535902/ 080-22535918

Other details can be obtained from the website of the Directorate of Minorities https://dom.karnataka.gov.in and GeM Portal.

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited by KS&DL in two cover system through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (Website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/) with respect to supply of following Goods/Services/Works.

Sl.No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Tender Quantity	Published date	Last date of submission
1	KSDL/2025-26/SE0170	Engaging of Dhoop machine operators, Pulverizing machine operators, Helpers (Dhoop & Pulverizing Unit), Helpers (Nursery/Gardening & Housekeeping) purely on contract basis for a period of one year	Services	29.08.2025	15.09.2025
2	KSDL/2025-26/IND0900	Procurement of Colour Measurement Tintometer on buy back basis	1 No.	30.08.2025	15.09.2025
3	KSDL/2025-26/IND0903	Procurement of Strip Bearings Part No.-FF2025zw	1500 No.s	01.09.2025	15.09.2025

For any queries contact the undersigned

Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

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E-Tender Notification No. SPO/UASR/E-Proc-06/2025-26, Dt: 01.09.2025.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur is inviting e-tender notification for PURCHASE OF RAW MATERIALS / CHEMICALS FOR PULSE MAGIC AND CHICKPEA MAGIC PRODUCTION REQUIRED FOR ZONAL AGRICULTURE RESERCH STATION, KALABURGI.The interested suppliers are requested to participate through online only. The website address iswww.kppp.karnataka. gov.in (Indent Number:- UASRCR/2025-26/IND0062 & 0064.The last date for submission of filled in Tender Document is 13.09.2025.

DIP/RCR/374/KSMCA/375/2025-26

Sd/- Stores Purchase Officer
UAS, Raichur.

TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, HANGAL

No: TMC/HNL/Eng/15th/SFC/SFCDW/stall rent/Vahi/2025-26 Date: 30-08-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Municipal Act 1964 Karnataka Public on behalf of the Governor of the State As per Procurement Transparency Act 2000 As per 2025-26 15th Finance, SFC, SFC drinking Water and Stall rent fund for 79.64 Lakhs Estimated Paper Prepared E-Procurement Tenders from Eligible Contractors in Single Envelope/Two-Envelope Mode KW-1 & KW-2 tenders are invited from qualified grade contractors registered with the Locopayogi Department and e-procurement portal for kppp-procurement tender documents through departmental website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ to apply online on the date mentioned below.

(KPPP-Procurment)

Sl. No.	INDENT No	Estimate Value (in Rs.)	EMD Amount	Reservation	NIT Published Date	Last Date Tender Closure
1	DMA/2025-26/OW/ WORK_INDENT45701 (ST)	1000000.00	12500.00	ST	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
2	DMA/2025-26/BD/ WORK_INDENT45106 (SC)	700000.00	8750.00	CAT-II(A)	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
3	DMA/2025-26/BD/ WORK_ INDENT45002/CALL-2 (others)	4800000.00	120000.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
4	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_ INDENT41928/CALL-2 (CAT-II(A))	357000.00	8925.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
5	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_ INDENT41930/ CALL-2 (others)	357000.00	8925.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
6	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT45695/CALL-2 (others)	150000.00	3750.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
7	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT45698/CALL-2 (others)	200000.00	5000.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
8	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT45743/CALL-2 (others)	100000.00	1250.00	SC	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
9	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_ INDENT45702/CALL-2 (ST)	200000.00	2500.00	SC	30-08-2025	08-09-2025
10	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_ INDENT46209/CALL-2 (SC)	100000.00	2500.00	GEN	30-08-2025	08-09-2025

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Sd/- CHIEF OFFICER, TMC, HANGAL

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BIRAC ANNOUNCES

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Dual-track diplomacy: Optics and openings

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's four-day trip abroad was at once about bolstering bilateral relations and building multilateral fellowship. While the bilateral dimension came into focus in his talks with the leaders of Russia, China, and Japan, his participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin underlined the importance of institutional synergy. Both kinds of engagement are important at a time when the global order is changing in uncertain ways. India has reasons to be content with the proceedings and the outcome of the SCO summit. The convergence of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Modi, and a number of other leaders may have sent a message of solidarity in a fractured world, though many member-nations have disparate views and interests. The Tianjin Declaration, adopted by the summit, also underscores many commonalities.

The declaration reflected India's concerns over terrorism – it called for bringing to justice the perpetrators and sponsors of terrorist attacks. It is a move forward for India, considering that the joint statement at the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in China two months ago had made no mention of the Pahalgam carnage. India had refused to sign that declaration which, instead, took note of terrorist activities in Pakistan's Balochistan. The Tianjin Declaration has also made a reference to terrorism in Balochistan. The important takeaway for India is that terrorism was raised as a concern and "double standards" on the issue were noted at a forum where Pakistan and its supporter China were present. While the declaration did feature parts India has not been in full agreement with, a sense of camaraderie was on display. It is also significant that India shared a "deep concern" over Israeli actions in Gaza and condemned the military strikes on Iran by Israel and the US.

India's outreach aims to strengthen bilateral and multilateral ties in a fractured world

The summit also saw a strengthening of ties between India and Russia. The optics of Modi travelling with Putin in a car has a special significance when President Donald Trump is seeking to penalise India for its relations with Russia. It should also be noted that the Prime Minister reaffirmed India's established relations with Japan before he went to China. This engagement is significant because Japan is an ally of the US and a member of the Quad grouping, which has the US, Australia, and India as the other members and seeks to contain China's influence in the Pacific region. Bilateral and multilateral lines get entangled in a world where relations are in a flux. The best countries can do is to leverage the advantages gained through both approaches.

A vote for growth and autonomy

The governance of India's technology capital has long been in a state of suspended animation. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), formed in 2007 by merging the Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BMP) with surrounding municipalities and villages, was envisaged as a single, representative civic body to meet the demands of a booming metropolis. Yet, in 18 years of its existence, elections have been held only twice: in 2010 and 2015. The term of the last council ended in September 2020, and for the past five years, Bengaluru has been run by bureaucrats, not elected representatives. Successive governments have hidden behind the excuse of administrative restructuring to postpone polls. With the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) now operational, that fig leaf no longer exists. The Supreme Court has repeatedly held that elections to municipal bodies are not optional. In multiple rulings, the Court has underlined that Article 243U of the Constitution makes it mandatory for elections to be held before the expiry of the council's term. It also made clear that neither restructuring nor delimitation can be cited to delay them. By denying citizens the right to elect their representatives, the government is effectively disenfranchising the people of Bengaluru.

The GBA model, on paper, has its merits. Dividing the city into five corporations and bringing key parastatal agencies like BWSSB and BESCOM under one framework could ensure better coordination and decentralisation. However, the structure also has a glaring flaw as the Chief Minister now becomes the de facto mayor. This centralises authority and risks reducing corporators and mayors, the real custodians of local governance, to token players. MPs and MLAs already have defined roles in Parliament and the legislature, and their presence in the GBA should not come at the expense of elected city representatives.

Bengaluru needs a transparent and accountable civic body. Elections cannot be delayed further

It is no surprise that many legislators are less than enthusiastic about holding the civic polls. A functioning council would curtail the extraordinary control they have over civic decisions and developmental projects. But this is precisely the point: democracy is meant to distribute power, not hoard it. Local self-governance is not a privilege to be dispensed with political convenience; it is a constitutional right and bedrock of urban democracy. Bengaluru citizens deserve a transparent, responsive, and accountable civic body that reflects their voice – not an administration perpetually run by bureaucrats. The government must announce the poll dates at the earliest and honour both the letter and spirit of the Constitution. As a global city with soaring aspirations, Bengaluru cannot afford to be governed in a democratic vacuum any longer.

A MEASURE OF DEPRIVATION

The 1/3 problem in India's poverty estimation

A rigid adherence to the core formula leads to serious underestimation of poverty among millions

KAIBALYAPATI MISHRA AND JADHAV CHAKRADHAR

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) marked a significant departure from traditional approaches to measuring poverty. Instead of focusing narrowly on income, the MPI captures a wider spectrum of deprivations that individuals and households experience across health, education, and living standards. In India, the national MPI, developed by NITI Aayog in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), has emerged as a significant method for monitoring progress in poverty reduction. Based on the household-level data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), the index covers 12 indicators ranging from education to health to standard of living, each equally weighted within its dimension, to construct a composite picture of deprivation. A household is identified as multidimensionally poor if it suffers deprivations in at least one-third of the total weighted indicators. This threshold, known as $k = 1/3$, is rooted in the Alkire-Foster methodology and ensures that poverty measurement captures both the breadth and intensity of deprivation.

Yet, this seemingly simple cutoff has increasingly attracted criticism for its arbitrariness and lack of empirical grounding, raising serious questions about the validity of India's MPI estimates. The choice of one-third deprivation ($k = 1/3$) rests more on normative judgement than on rigorous empirical justification. As a result, even minor adjustments to this threshold can produce large shifts in measured poverty, which alter both headcount ratios and narratives of current estimates. For example, the reported fall in multidimensional poverty from 29.17% in 2013-14 to 11.28% in 2022-23 may, at least in part, reflect the sensitivity of results to methodological choices rather than an unambiguous structural transformation. This subjectivity creates space for bias, as the choice of technical parameters and their equal weights may be shaped intentionally or unintentionally by political goals to present rapid progress, rather than by an objective or the current picture of deprivation on the ground.

Let's understand the problem this causes on the ground. Even going by the 1/3 rule – which states that anybody with a score above 33.33% is poor – its application in India makes a gruesome mistake due to its sharp cutoff. In a country of billions, this is worrisome. Consider somebody scoring 32% and another scoring 34%. While computationally there is a gap of 2%, it is unlikely that any significant difference would be observed on the ground between the two households. Therefore, the cut-off, because of its rigidity, often does an injustice to the households just below the threshold. In India, this could mean that tens of millions of people who are one step away from poverty are not seen as a priority.

The fact that governments expect back-patting for poverty reduction based on these numbers is absolutely contrary to what one would expect from the MPI. Remember that the MPI is largely established based on the Capability Approach, developed by Nobel Prize-winning economist Prof. Amartya Sen. This approach is different also because it focuses on the freedom and capability of individuals to aspire to and achieve a valued life. However, in a welfare state where the government provides many necessities like toilets, roads, houses, and rations, and these provisions push households below the 1/3 cutoff, two aspects are ignored that lead to an underestimation of poverty: (i) These households were initially incapable of fulfilling those necessities themselves. By counting the government-provided necessities, we risk underestimating their underlying economic vulnerability. (ii) By sticking rigidly to the 1/3 rule, this approach exacerbates the peril of underestimation. This is why we should categorise, *actually the poor* and *officially the poor*.

A flawed foundation

Actual poverty, in this context, goes beyond mere access to Standard of Living (SOL) indicators such as sanitation facilities; it emphasises the actual utilisation and sustained use of these resources to ensure meaningful improvements in well-being. A household may have a toilet constructed through government schemes, but if cultural and caste barriers, maintenance issues, or lack of water prevent its regular use, the deprivation persists in practice, rendering the official classification misleading.

The obvious on/off switch created by the 1/3 cutoff results in two groups of people: the poor and the not-poor. Most importantly, an individual designated as poor with 34% of indicators and someone with 94% are categorised identically – simply as "poor." Consequently, the depth of multidimensional poverty is lost. This is not to blame the MPI itself, but this cutoff thinking impacts policymaking significantly. The recent governmental focus on improving national and international rankings shifts the policy target. The fact that it is easier to bring someone at 34% below the 33% line by simply providing a toilet makes it more efficient for the government to reduce the poverty headcount. However, this approach shifts the focus away from the individual at 94% deprivation, who requires more immediate and comprehensive attention.

Recent research by Bonnerjee (2025) has pointed to the inherent instability of the $k = 1/3$ cutoff. Data-driven approaches suggest more stable cut-offs between 0.22 and 0.24. Applying these thresholds yields MPI figures that are 69-127% higher than the official estimates. Sensitivity checks using alternative cutoffs and weighting schemes reinforce the point that methodological choices can significantly distort poverty measurement, especially in a country as diverse as India, where deprivation patterns vary widely across regions, castes, and household types (Alkire *et al.*,2019).

Questioning the 1/3 cutoff is not merely an academic exercise; it has profound implications for policy formulation, resource allocation, and India's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. If the MPI's foundational assumptions are flawed, the celebrated narrative of lifting millions out of poverty may mask persistent inequalities. More importantly, such mismeasurement of countries' important variables diverts attention from the structural challenges that hinder inclusive development. The growth and welfare must reach marginalised communities and households that remain trapped in multidimensional deprivation.

(Kaibalyapati is a senior research fellow at CESP, ISEC, Bengaluru; Jadhav is an assistant professor at the Centre for Economic and Social Studies [CESS], Hyderabad)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

On a train to nowhere

The lure of snow-clad mountains kept me on course

BHARATHI GHANASHYAM

In January 2016, I woke up on a bitterly cold Sunday morning in a beautiful country – Belgium where I was spending three weeks on a scholarship. I snuggled deeper into my quilt, preparing to go back into slumber, but my conscience reminded me that this day would never come again.

An hour later, I was on a train with no particular destination in mind. I had bought a day ticket at the Antwerp railway station and boarded a train to Namur. It was easy to go to the mountains from there and I was drawn to the idea of seeing snow-clad mountains from a moving train.

Ten minutes into my journey, a scary thought struck me. No one, including my family or people at the institute, knew my whereabouts. I didn't have a working phone. What if something happened to me? What if the train had an accident? How would people find me? How would they even know I was on a train from nowhere to nowhere? Now, I realised I was alone, not in solitude.

The train sped along, oblivious to the storm brewing within me. In one panic-stricken moment, I considered alighting at the next station and returning. But the snow-clad mountains were beckoning and I persevered.

A young, beautiful girl sitting opposite me struck up a conversation. She too was going to Namur! When I told her why I was going there, she found it hard to keep a straight face. These funny Indians, she probably thought. I didn't even have a copy of *Lonely Planet* with me, she discovered.

We reached Namur and she took me to the ticket counter. Speaking in Dutch, she explained to the clerk that I wanted to see snow from a moving train, struggling to suppress her amusement.

Five minutes later, armed with a ticket and precise instructions on how to reach Libramont, a small town nestled in the Ardennes and wrapped in snow, I wondered what to do next, as I had an hour before boarding the train.

My guardian angel led me to a restaurant across the station and got me a sumptuous hot meal. She ensured I returned to the station in time for my train and helped me store her number in my phone. It was then she mentioned she had only half a day to spend with her parents, who lived in Namur, before returning to Brussels, where she studied. Two hours of that had already passed, helping me. When I finally asked her name, the response floored; her name was Mira.

After returning to India, I messaged her to thank her, but received no response. Perhaps she was someone I had imagined? But I still remember every feature of her beautiful face and her soft voice, guiding me...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Government must rethink its pension policy for lawmakers

It has been reported that former Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar has applied for an ex-MLA pension of Rs 42,000 per month from the Rajasthan Government for his five-year term as MLA. Notably, he is already receiving an ex-MP pension of Rs 45,000, plus other benefits, in addition to his monthly pension of Rs 2 lakh as ex-VP, along with a bungalow and other perks. This is bizarre. Is it justified for the same person to claim three pensions? Is this a vestige of our colonial past or bureaucratic indulgence? It is high time we re-examine the benefits being lavished on our politicians. An ordinary government employee must serve for nearly 30 years-- and retire with unblemished record -- to receive pension, whereas politicians receive multiple pensions. The government should rethink these anomalies.

V Narayanan, Bengaluru

Shun prejudice

Apropos 'Dasara: pluralism must take precedence' (Sept 2), Dasara—acknowledged by people regardless of their religious identity—is a time of community kinship. Political attribution and influences in festivals must also, therefore, be addressed as political leaders see these gatherings as opportunities to breed conflict rather than encourage diversity. India must take pride in its diversity and showcase it at every opportunity instead of allowing empty prejudices to take precedence.

Meghana Sudeesh, Bengaluru

Ties beyond US

Apropos 'Modi, Xi agree: India and China partners' (Sept 1), Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to China, aimed at strengthening diplomatic ties, is highly relevant in the present context. The tariff issue has long been a point of contention between the United States and India, especially since President Trump raised tariffs by up to 50% on many Indian goods. Modi's firm and resolute response to American demands indicates India's steadfast diplomatic position and its autonomous foreign policy. It is high time India expanded its business relations with countries in Asia, Europe, Africa, and Latin America. At the same time, India must not yield to undue pressure from the US. A stable, cordial, and mutually exclusive relationship between India and China will undoubtedly contribute to regional stability and global peace and prosperity.

Prabhakaran Vallath, Kozhikode (Kerala)

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: **letters@deccanherald.co.in** (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender's postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Congress is the quintessential vote *chor* (vote thief)... That is why they want to tarnish everyone with the same brush. For far too long, they mutilated our electoral system, stole mandates by legitimising illegal infiltrators and non-Indians, and are now worried that the SIR initiated by the EC in Bihar will expose them.

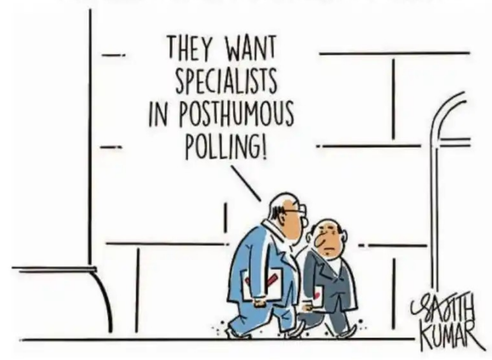
Pradeep Bhandari, BJP spokesperson

The goal is to keep the bewildered herd bewildered.

Noam Chomsky

TO BE PRECISE

India to send teams to monitor Myanmar election



IN PERSPECTIVE

A dissent for collegium reform

Criticism of judicial appointments tests the system's foundations in transparency and accountability

NAYAKARA VEERESHA

Debates around transparency and accountability in the functioning of the Supreme Court Collegium (SCC) system have resurfaced, in criticism articulated from within. The note of dissent by Justice B V Nagarathna, an SCC member, over the elevation of Justice Vipul Pancholi, Chief Justice, Patna High Court, as a judge of the Supreme Court, underlines misgivings.

The SCC resolution and its almost instant approval by the union government raise a few questions. It has failed to adhere to the precedent set by the earlier SCC in 2017, for providing reasons for appointment and elevation of High Court and Supreme Court judges. Furthermore, the dissent note has not been disclosed. The government's fast-track action on the recommendation has only added to prevailing apprehensions regarding supersession of judges and gender imbalance in the apex court.

The SCC was established as an outcome of the interpretive power of the top court, with respect to Articles 124, 217 and 222. A Supreme Court ruling in 2015 struck down the proposed amendments for greater executive role through the National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC), and upheld the existing collegium system, reinforcing its primacy of decision-making. Logically, the involvement of two organs of State can further refine the decision-making process but this has also been cited as a limitation because of potential assertions by the executive.

A critical point from the perspective of democracy, as proposed in the NJAC, was the inclusion of one eminent person from "amongst the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities or Women". This provision is in consonance with the social diversity and inclusive participation of marginalised sections in the highest judicial appointments. By proposing the presence of women, the NJAC had also facilitated gendered governance in the judicial appointment process. The SCC and the idea of NJAC have inherent limitations but in bodies constituted for oversight, the principles of transparency and accountability must hold precedence.

Even in the majority verdict upholding the primacy of the collegium system over the NJAC, in the case of Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association vs. Union of India, 2015, the judges pointed out the need for transparency and accountability of the collegium and its functioning.

The recent criticism from one of its own members has, again, tested the collegium system on its adoption of checks and balances and its engagement with the other organs of the State, civil society, and citizens. Here, it is important to note that the Indian Constitution has adopted a relative separation of powers rather than in its strictest sense, as can be seen in, for instance, the American constitution.

Solution in consultation

While interpreting the provisions of the Articles 124, 217 and 222 in the second judges' case, the top court seems to have ventured into what is known as judicial governance. The collegium has been functional as an alternative mechanism but any system that defines its own composition can also be weighed down by a lack of accountability. It is worthwhile to look at the broad approaches that are in place to interpret the Constitution namely (i) the original intent of the framers and (ii) as an evolving or living document. However, in establishing the SCC, the evolving socio-political context appears to have been bypassed. This effectively dilutes institutional transparency and accountability, which is indispensable for a democracy. It is a worrying pattern, considering that institutional decline and erosion of judicial autonomy are also seen as prominent markers of majoritarian regimes across the world.

The government will do well to initiate a dialogue with the top court to formulate a robust, suitable mechanism and firm up a rationale in the appointment of judges. The ongoing rift and the attack on the existing collegium system will only deepen the power struggle between the executive and the judiciary. The recommendations of the National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) in 2002 make important reference points in this context, with the proposed establishment of a National Judicial Commission to make recommendations for judicial appointments.

The Commission noted that "the recommendation for the establishment of a National Judicial Commission and its composition are to be treated as integral in view of the need to preserve the independence of the judiciary". Importantly, it noted that "it would be worthwhile to have a participatory mode with the participation of both the executive and the judiciary in making such recommendations". Consultative processes, without room for executive capture, are the way forward in reaffirming the trust in constitutional governance.

(The writer is an assistant professor at the Symbiosis Law School – Symbiosis International [Deemed University], Pune)

'The focus is on bringing transparency with a victim-centric approach'

The new head of the state police has placed grassroots monitoring of social media to curb rising vigilantism and communalism in Karnataka's backwaters high on his agenda. Other focus areas include faster, higher-quality investigations, tech-driven policing, and strengthening the intelligence network. Excerpts:

M A Saleem, *Director-General and Inspector-General of Police, Karnataka, in conversation with* **Nina C George**

THE DEEP TAKE

● Rising vigilantism and communalism appear to be the biggest challenges for police beyond Bengaluru. How do you plan to counter this?
Karnataka is a largely peaceful state, but stray incidents of vigilantism and disharmony are threatening public order, eroding trust in the rule of law, and deepening societal divides. A firm, proactive, community-driven approach -- built on swift and impartial investigation, intelligence-based policing, and public engagement -- is key to tackling this challenge. Initiatives like 'Mane Manege Police' will help foster community policing and promote social harmony.

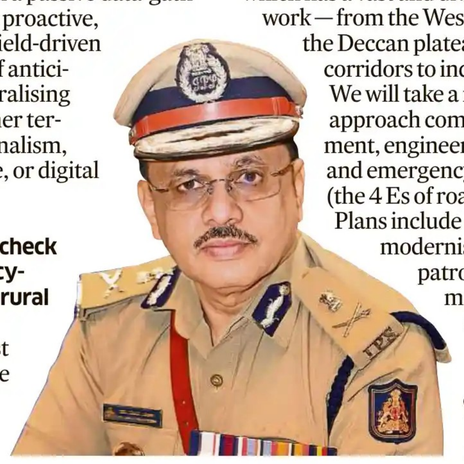
● Social media appears to be having a multiplier effect on vigilantism and communalism. How do you intend to equip the state police to deal with this?
We will prioritise technological upgradation of the police force to effectively monitor, preempt, and counter digital threats to communal harmony and public safety. Establishing social media monitoring cells at every police station will help address misinformation and disinformation. District-level fact-check units will also help disrupt the spread of fake news.

● You are heading the state police after having worked in various parts of Karnataka. What areas need your attention as DG&IGP?
My focus areas will include bringing in transparency with a victim-centric approach, ensuring the safety of every citizen -- especially women and underprivileged sections; leveraging technology as a force multiplier to prevent crime -- particularly cybercrime and drug trafficking; and improving the quality of criminal investigations at the police station level to match professional investigation agencies like the state CID and CBI. Other priorities are traffic management with better inter-agency coordination, enhanced road safety, welfare measures for police personnel and creating a conducive atmosphere for achieving professional goals.

● Bengaluru police face unique challenges. Is there a need for them to look outward and learn from other Indian and global cities?
Bengaluru's policing requires a strategic shift in mindset, capacity, and collaboration. In India's tech capital and one of its fastest-growing metros, we will set up a 'Bengaluru Urban Policing Innovation Cell', have international exchange and training programmes, learn from other Indian cities, collaborate with Bengaluru's startup ecosystem on technology co-creation and develop citizen-centric digital platforms.

● How will you ensure speedy disposal of cases?
The new criminal laws focuses on time-bound investigation of criminal cases and speedy disposal in courts. We plan to chalk out a strategic action plan to improve speed and quality of investigations which includes several key initiatives such as strengthening case monitoring and accountability by launching a state case monitoring dashboard to track investigation timelines, pending charge sheets, and delays by investigation officers. We want to establish district legal support cells with police officers/prosecutors to help investigation officers frame quality charge sheets. We will soon expand forensic access at district level — including mobile forensic vans for faster evidence collection. We also want to mandate the use of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) for all investigation-related documentation and enable e-FIR tracking and file digitisation from complaint to charge sheet submission. Among other plans put in place to ensure strong policing across the state is integrating video recording of statements (section 180 BNSS) using handheld devices in sensitive cases.

● How are you planning to boost the intelligence network in policing?
Strengthening the intelligence department is vital for proactive policing in a diverse, fast-changing, and technologically dynamic state like Karnataka. Our goal is to transform the intelligence wing from a passive data-gathering unit into a proactive, analytical, and field-driven force, capable of anticipating and neutralising threats — whether terrorism, communalism, organised crime, or digital subversion.



● Any plans to check penetration of cybercriminals in rural areas?
The fight against rural cybercrime must combine grassroots vigilance, technological support, and community participation. We will ensure rural Karnataka is not left behind in cybersecurity—turning every police station into a cyber-aware outpost, every citizen into a digitally alert user, and every scam into a data-driven counteraction.

● What needs to be done with regard to monitoring and preventing accidents on state highways?
Highway safety is a critical priority, especially in a state like Karnataka, which has a vast and diverse road network — from the Western Ghats to the Deccan plateau, from forest corridors to industrial belts. We will take a multi-pronged approach combining enforcement, engineering, education, and emergency response (the 4 Es of road safety). Plans include expanding and modernising highway patrols, AI-driven monitoring and smart cameras, and real-time mapping of accident black spots for rectification.

Eurasian leaders eagerly met the Russian leader at a summit this week, as President Trump has helped ease his isolation over the war in Ukraine

PAUL SONNE

President Vladimir V Putin of Russia gleefully held hands with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. NYT

Putin finds a growing embrace on the global stage

When Vladimir Putin attended the annual summit of Eurasia's main political and security organisation three years ago, the Russian president seemed isolated and on the ropes. China's leader raised concerns about Putin's invasion of Ukraine. India's prime minister pointedly declared, "Today's era is not of war." Other heads of state left their Russian counterpart idling alone before meetings. And on the battlefield in Ukraine, Russia's troops were collapsing in retreat.

Now, Putin's fortunes have changed — and so has the world.

Nowhere was that more apparent in recent days than in Tianjin, China, where leaders from member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, the Eurasian security grouping, met on Monday alongside heads of state from other countries. Putin used his stage to publicly blame the West for the war in Ukraine. He gleefully held hands with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and erupted in laughs as the pair joined in a huddle with the Chinese leader, Xi Jinping. Leaders from Iran, Nepal, Tajikistan, Turkey and Vietnam glad-handed Putin in private meetings that ran past midnight.

"It felt like the war was accepted in certain ways," said Maria Repnikova, a professor of global communication at Georgia State University who studies China and Russia. "It's like back to business and the war was not even present."

Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a statement, called it "surprising" that the summit's final communiqué made no mention of "the largest war of aggression in Europe since World War II" despite referring to "a number of other wars, terrorist attacks and events in the world."

The elephant in the room was President Donald Trump, who has helped end Putin's isolation, both by welcoming him to US soil for the first time in a decade and by clashing with leaders from Brazil, India and South Africa, pushing them closer to Putin.

Trump's relationship with Modi has unravelled as New Delhi has resisted pressure from Washington to credit the US leader with ending the military conflict between India and Pakistan. Trump has piled tariffs on India in response, singling out New Delhi for buying Russian oil. The message Modi seemed to be sending, after spending 50 minutes chatting in Putin's private limousine and embracing the Russian leader in public, was that India had other options.

Since the early days of the war in Ukraine, Russia has tended to its diplomatic relations with nations outside the West, especially China, India and Turkey, lifelines for Moscow's wartime economy.

"It's not only that Russia endured 3 1/2 years of difficult war and is still on its feet and still pushing forward, but Russia's diplomacy has been quite skilled," said Michael Kimmage, director of the Washington-based Kennan Institute, which focuses on Eurasia.

"Russia has built a network of relationships that matter to the Russian economy, that legitimise the Putin system and that make the war's impact on Russia smaller than it perhaps otherwise would be," he said. Still, the warm reception for Putin has gone only so far. Relations between many European countries and Russia remain in a deep freeze, tempering partners of Russia that rely on trade with Europe. Most have stopped short of recognising Russia's territorial claims or backing its war overtly.

But Trump's disruptive trade wars and mercurial foreign policy have created an opening, as Putin and Xi present themselves as more stable potential partners. Putin, in particular, has been warning about US-instigated chaos for years.

"The Chinese argument, which the Russians are happy to join, is that the US is a source of disorder," Kimmage said. "It's not just a meme or an argument now. It is true."

The meeting in Tianjin will be followed by China's commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Japanese surrender during World War II. Putin will stay for the events, which will include a military parade akin to the one Russia staged in May to commemorate victory over Germany. Xi attended the May events.

Despite Putin's entreaties abroad, some countries that Moscow has long considered part of its "sphere of influence" have seen an erosion of Russian influence.

The Kremlin fielded questions on Monday about when Putin would meet with President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan, who was also in attendance in Tianjin, amid strained ties between Russia and Azerbaijan.

Aliyev and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan of Armenia appeared in Washington last month with Trump to sign a peace pledge, with the White House usurping the Kremlin as the traditional interlocutor between the two nations. Putin met with Pashinyan in Tianjin on Sunday.

The Russian foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, presented the Tianjin summit as an answer to what he called Western efforts to maintain dominance through tariffs and the primary role of the dollar in international trade. It is now clear, he told Russian state television, that "these competitors have not only grown stronger, but in many respects are already ahead of the historical collective West."

The New York Times

Ukraine war leads to TNT shortage

For more than a century, the US relied on TNT for military weapons and commercial mining. It was plentiful and cheap a couple of decades ago. But making TNT, or trinitrotoluene, creates hazardous waste, and by the mid-1980s the Defence Department had shut down the last facility in the US that made it. Foreign suppliers — primarily in China, Russia, Poland and Ukraine — stepped in. Poland had been the Pentagon's sole authorised supplier of TNT. But it has been sending much of what it makes across its border to Ukraine, which is using all that it produces for its own military purposes. That comes as two of the other main sources of TNT, Russia and China, have stopped exporting to the US, the officials said. This has put pressure on US weapons production as well as blasting operations at the rock quarries that produce the raw material for bridges, roads and buildings in America.

Trees and their keepers

B P RAVI

The lush green Myristica swamps in Uttara Kannada give visitors the impression that the Western Ghats are thriving despite the pressures of development. But seasoned observers are already noticing signs that portend major changes ahead.

The Kathlekan Myristica Swamp forests are synonymous with the rich heritage of the Western Ghats. For Venkataramana Nagu Naik of Mavinagundi village, who has been serving the Karnataka Forest Department as a watcher for 32 years, the swamps are a second home. He knows their micro-ecosystems intuitively, and he expresses his expertise in everyday language.

During a recent visit, Naik spoke of an unusual development in the life of the Dhuma tree (Dipterocarpus turbinatus), native to tropical semi-evergreen and wet evergreen forests of India and Southeast Asia. Over the years, both seed production and natural regeneration of the Dhuma have declined.

When asked, he said he does not know the precise cause but pointed to extreme summer heat, prolonged dry spells, and higher annual temperatures as possible reasons. What is troubling, he adds, is that the change is occurring at a time when the forests otherwise appear to be in good condition. Dhuma and other species have recovered well after years of strict protection, with forest fires almost entirely controlled.

Globally, research has shown that flora and fauna are behaving in unusual ways under the stress of extreme temperatures and shifting weather patterns driven by climate change. The International Union for Conservation of Nature notes that of 3,531 plant and tree species assessed in India, 158 are critically endangered, 286 endangered, 238 vulnerable, and 98 are near threatened. The status of 306 others remains unknown due to insufficient data. Extreme weather, invasive species, and other compounding factors of climate change are likely to push more species towards risk.

I took Venkataraman's observation to R Vasudeva, Dean of Forestry College, Sirsi. He suggests several factors, from fruit-eating insects (weevils and beetles) eating the Dhuma seeds after they fall to reduced seed production, for the poor regeneration of Dhuma. His observation on the role of aphids (sap-sucking insects) opens yet another window: studies have shown that pests are thriving in warmer, more humid conditions created by climate change.

Seed production in evergreen forest trees is largely through insect pollination ('entomophily'). It is unclear whether the pollinating insects of Dhuma themselves are affected by extreme weather or if their reproduction cycles are now out of sync with the tree's flowering.

Another factor could be changes in primate behaviour. A decline in their arboreal activity (lion-tailed macaques and langurs) and an increase in land usage may have reduced the movement of pollinating insects, which once flew from tree to tree to avoid being the next meal of the LTMs or langurs. As Venkataramana notes, insect activity increases when langurs and LTMs are present in the canopy, boosting cross-pollination and seed production.

Evergreen forests, Myristica swamps and shola ecosystems are highly complex. Researchers are only beginning to grasp their intricacies, which may remain beyond our full understanding. In this background, it is imperative that disturbances to these systems be kept to a minimum.

Though large-scale diebacks have not yet been reported in the Western Ghats, troubling signs are emerging. In 2020, over 150 *jala* (Shorea talura) trees died due to a sudden pest attack. There are also reports of Myristica species (Ramapatre and bitter nutmeg) near Castle Rock in Uttara Kannada being affected by increased pests, with some trees succumbing to hydraulic shock. Elsewhere, Terminalia tomentosa (Karimatti) near Bhagawthi in Halyal division has suffered heart-rot disease, while Emblica (Nelli) and mahogany are battling shoot-borers.

Thus, it is clear that pests and diseases are increasingly affecting tree growth and productivity. There is yet another group of silent killers harming the native ecosystem -- invasive species like lantana, mikenia and senna (Cassia spectabilis) are spreading rapidly in Bandipur and other protected areas.

What is needed is regular ecological monitoring and vulnerability assessments of forest tracts, with closer collaboration between field staff, research institutes and universities. Training and sensitisation of frontline personnel should extend beyond trees to include herbs, shrubs and medicinal plants, many of which are at severe risk but receive little attention.

These developments underscore the urgency of assessing the impacts of development projects in fragile ecosystems. Wildlife sanctuaries and national parks were created to ensure better protection for the native species.

(The writer is an IFS officer in Karnataka)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 1975

'Turning point in West Asia'

Alexandria, September 2
Israel and Egypt initialled last night an unprecedented agreement to resolve their differences "by peaceful means." Egyptian President Anwar Sadat said it could mark a turning point in West Asia. He said Secretary of State Henry Kissinger "had a hell of a time both here and there" in hammering out the accord during his 12-day shuttle diplomacy. When the pact is implemented, Israel will pull back 19 km. to 48 km. in the Sinai in return for a number of Egyptian gestures including transit of Israeli cargo through the Suez Canal.

25 YEARS AGO: SEPTEMBER 2000

SC pulls up State for bowing to brigand's demands

New Delhi, Sept 2
The Supreme Court on Friday stayed indefinitely the release of 30 associates of forest brigand Veerappan and came down heavily on the Karnataka government for agreeing to the bandit's "illegal and unreasonable demands" to release Kannada film superstar Rajkumar. The Supreme Court asked: "What have you (the government) done for the past eight years to apprehend (Veerappan)? If you cannot do it, then quit and make way for somebody else who can."

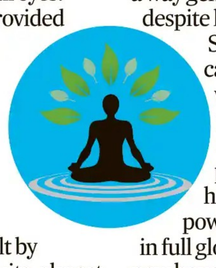
OASIS | ROHINI S MURTHY

Lessons from a living garden

'As I work in the garden, the garden works on me'

I recently read this quote and realized that tending to plants and just watching them grow has been an integral part of my life. I probably picked up this habit from my maternal aunt and uncle who lived next door during my formative years. It has been my long-cherished wish to stay in a house surrounded by mother nature and destiny made this possible when my husband got transferred to a place which had a housing community atop a picturesque hillock. Fortunately, we were allotted a ground floor house with a verdant garden facing our drawing room. Though it was a corner house with a huge wall separating the adjacent sector, our garden was the cynosure of all eyes.

A massive jackfruit tree provided enough yield for the entire neighborhood, while the breeze from the neem tree purified the air and it's fallen leaves acted as a natural repellant for pests. At the far end of our compound, Custard apple and guava trees made their presence felt by adorning themselves with fruits, almost throughout the year. These giving trees adapted to the vagaries of nature quite efficiently. Be it torrential rains or scorching heat, it was remarkable to see them robustly rooted to terra firma, in a way gently schooling us to stay strong despite life's ups and downs!



Soon, our stay in this house came to an end as the building was scheduled for special repairs. When we were allotted a house in the adjacent compound, I fervently prayed for a house with a green patch. The power of prayer was experienced in full glory when we moved into this new house with a sprawling garden and fruit trees and floras encasing it. Blessing the hands that tended to this fertile plot, I happily immersed myself in this green lap of luxury.

Now, gardening has become a meditative process that teaches me the fine art of patience, mindfulness and appreciation for small things in life. "Unknowingly we smile just looking at this flowering plants and trees full of fruits", my house help Vijaya commented one day. Her profound statement has stuck with me filling my heart with delight and gratitude. This quote by David Hobson aptly sums my state of mind, "I grow plants for many reasons: to please my soul, to challenge the elements or to challenge my patience, for novelty, or for nostalgia, but mostly for the joy in seeing them grow."

GBA is born: 5 corporations...

GBA, From Page 1

There may be some disruption in delivery of services, slow-down in infrastructure works and delay in grievance redressal given that a lot of manpower will be dedicated to drawing new boundaries for the wards, preparing electoral rolls and confusion over their new roles etc.

According to the notification, each corporation comprises anywhere between two and 10 Assembly constituencies while the wards range from 17 to 64.

In simple terms, the five corporations are likely to focus on maintenance work given the limited resources, while the GBA will undertake large projects.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar hinted that there could be as many as 500 councillors with each corporation having 100 wards. This could be a blessing in disguise for aspiring leaders who want to test the political waters which are already muddied. Some however believe the government has dug a mountain but it may not even find a mouse.

There was hope that the developed panchayat limits – which are in the peripheral areas – will be included in the GBA but the government has not extended the limits yet. Sources said that as and when the panchayats complete their term, they would be included in the GBA through a notification.

Interestingly, Opposition leaders have remained silent on the move, though they had previously walked out of the Assembly during the passage of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act—the legislation that laid the groundwork for this restructuring.

Delay in guest faculty recruitment hits teaching at govt degree colleges

VITTAL SHASTRI
KALABURAGI, DHNS

Delay in the appointment of guest lecturers to 430 government degree colleges across the state has severely impacted academic activities at these institutions. Consequently, several classes are not being conducted more than a month after the state of the academic year.

On August 2, 2025, 11,000 guest lecturers were relieved from service after having served for 10 months at various colleges. These posts that fell vacant are yet to be filled across the state. Meanwhile, norms stipulated by the University Grants Commission (UGC) that all guest lecturers either have NET/SLET/SET qualification or possess a PhD has further complicated the problem. While those who have the requisite qualifications are insistent on the UGC regulations being adhered to and have approached the High Court, the government, however, has sought time, up to one year, to allow nearly 5,500 guest lecturers who do not meet the UGC's criteria to obtain the necessary qualification. The Karnataka High Court is set to hear the case on Wednesday.

Karnataka Minister for Higher Education Dr M C Sudhakar said that the state government is doing all it can to protect the interests of students. "The government will abide by the court's orders on this issue. We have intimated the court about the problems the students are facing owing to the delay in appointment of guest lecturers...We can take no action till the court delivers its judgement," said Sudhakar.

A file photo of guest lecturers staging a protest, demanding regularisation of their services.

President of Karnataka State Government Degree College Guest Lecturers' Association Dr Hanumanthgowda Kalmani said that guest lecturers, many of whom had been teaching for more than two decades but had only a Master's degree, would lose their source of income if lecturers with the qualifications prescribed by the UGC were recruited.

"Many of these lecturers are on the verge of retirement. We are demanding that the government provide them with job security since they are the ones taking nearly 80% of the classes at government degree colleges," said Dr Kalmani.

As awareness rises, teen pregnancies decline in state

Teen pregnancies, From Page 1

Child rights expert Vasudeva Sharma pointed out that these numbers are still alarming. "The decline is a welcome development, but requires efforts to sustain and reduce the numbers further," he said.

Sharma said that child pregnancies with or without consent or child marriage is a crime under Pocso. But FIRs are not filed in most cases. And even in registered cases, the conviction rate is low due to various factors, he said.

One way to tackle the problem, according to Sharma, involves the health department, police and department of women and child development coming up with a single window system. "The moment there is an entry of teenage pregnancy in RCH portal, police should get alerted and they should file an FIR," Sharma said.

A small percentage of these cases relate to abuse or rape by adults. Most cases are related to child marriage and relationships among youngsters, he added.

KCPCR President K Naganna Gowda said increasing use of smartphones and social media platforms have resulted in exploitative and unsafe interactions.

"We have planned to strengthen Women and Child Protection Committees (Mahileyaru Matthu Makkala Rakshana Kaavalu Samithi) formed at different levels followed by a government circular on August 6, 2019 to bring down the trend further," he said.

Sharma called for more awareness and wanted parents to shoulder the responsibility of guiding children on social media and smartphone use.

"The Department of State Education Research and Training, with our inputs, has come up with a primer or manual to educate children from class 9 to PUC about aspects like relationships, sexuality, Pocso. But it is yet to be rolled out," said Sharma.

◆ WEATHER ◆

Overview: Rainfall occurred at few places over North Interior and at most places over Coastal Karnataka and South Interior Karnataka
Forecast Sept 03: Rainfall to occur at many places over the state.

INTERIOR NORTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Belagavi	25.2	20.8	02
Bidar	28	21.2	00
Vijayapura	28.2	21.5	00
Dharwad	27	20	2.8
Haveri	27.4	21.2	0.8
Kalaburagi	30.7	22.6	00
Raichur	30.4	22	00
COASTAL			
Honnavar	29.3	25.1	4.2
Karwar	29.6	25.2	07
Shirali	NA	NA	NA
Mangaluru	29.1	22.1	11.2

INTERIOR SOUTH			
Stations	Max	Min	Rain
Agumbe	NA	NA	36.5
Bengaluru	27.6	19.6	30.6
Ballari	NA	NA	NA
Chamarajanagar	28.3	20	00
Chikkamagaluru	NA	NA	NA
Chitradurga	27.8	21.1	00
Davangere	26	19.5	00
Hassan	26	19.5	02
Mysuru	28.6	20	12
Madikeri	NA	NA	NA
Kolar	28.1	20.8	2.6
OTHER STATIONS			
New Delhi	30.8	21.7	38
Kolkata	35.1	25	29
Mumbai	30.5	25.6	11
Chennai	34.2	27.2	00
Pune	28.2	21.9	0.3
Hyderabad	28.4	21.8	0.3
Th'puram	30.9	24.7	01

B'luru among top 3 cities in...

Breast cancer, From Page 1

A previous study had found patients in India tend to present with lung cancer about a decade earlier than those in western populations, with median age ranging from 54 to 70 years. Additionally, half of the patients were diagnosed with advanced-stage disease.

The new findings indicate that Aizawl, East Khasi Hills, Papum Pare, Kamrup Urban, and Mizoram in the Northeast recorded the highest incidence rates of cancer and esophageal cancer was most prevalent. Kerala and Kashmir are the two other regions with high cancer burden.

Delhi recorded an incidence rate (146.7 for males) three times higher than Barshi, a rural site in Maharashtra. This is also consistent with a previous study.

Oral cancer showed significant increases in 14 population-based cancer registries among males and in four registries among females, with the maximum rise recorded in Ahmedabad for both sexes.

Among males, mouth cancer was the most prevalent followed by lung and prostate cancers, while among women it is breast cancer followed by cervical cancer. Srinagar recorded the highest incidence rate for lung cancer.

"The cross-sectional study highlighted significant regional disparities in cancer incidence across India and the increasing cancer burden. The findings provide key insights for policymakers to enhance resource allocation and strengthen cancer control strategies nationwide," the researchers reported in JAMA Network Open.

India ranks second in Asia in the number of cancer cases, and the likelihood of an Indian developing cancer is 11%.

The Global Cancer Observatory has estimated that the incidence of cancer in India will increase to approximately 25 lakh cases by 2045.

Dharmasthala: ED to probe if funds used to stir unrest

Dharmasthala, From Page 1

Responding to a query on the BJP's demand for an NIA probe, the home minister sternly reiterated that it won't happen.

"The chief minister and I have said several times that there is no need for an NIA probe. The SIT is doing its job. We won't hand over the investigation to the NIA. Till the SIT investigation is complete, we won't say anything else. It appears that their [BJP's] intention is to hamper the SIT probe," the home minister said.

"The question of transferring the probe to a different agency arises only when there are errors or mistakes in the probe. The SIT hasn't made any mistakes," he added.

Parameshwara said that SIT chief Pronab Mohanty doesn't always meet him solely to discuss the SIT probe.

"He also heads the Internal Security Division (ISD). SIT is one part of his duty. Other matters will also be discussed [during the meetings]," Parameshwara added.

Next-gen reforms in mind, GST Council to meet today

GST, From Page 1

A large number of consumer items like television, air conditioner and small cars, which are currently under the 28% GST slab, are likely to move to 18% slab, becoming cheaper by 10 percentage points.

Several items such as toothpaste, shampoo and talcum powder, which are currently taxed at 18%, are likely to move to 5% slab. It will lead to a sharp drop in the price of these goods.

According to government sources, around 99% of items in the 12% slabs are likely to move to 5% slab, while 90% of goods and services under the 28% rate will shift to 18%.

SBI Research in a note said the rate rationalisation is likely to result in stronger revenue collections.

THE FEDERAL BANK LIMITED
Regd. Office: Aluva, Kerala.
ZONAL OFFICE: 2nd Floor, Halcyon Complex, No.9, St Marks Road, Bangalore-560 001.
e-mail: bgrr-cpc@federalbank.co.in Phone: 080-22074610/604/613/624/625

BGRR/PvtSale/2025-26 NOTICE FOR PRIVATE SALE OF GOLD 02/09/2025

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold Ornaments pledged in the following Gold Loan accounts, with the under mentioned Branches of the Bank, which are overdue for redemption and which have not been regularized so far in spite of repeated notices, will be put for Private sale, in the respective Branches on any date after 17-09-2025 as shown below:

Br. Rajaji Nagar: No. 60/60, Raj Chambers, Dr. Rajkumar Road, 2nd Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 010:- 13346800086169. **Br. Bangalore/Vijayanagar: Ground Floor of TRS Arcade, #3, 1st main road, Income Tax Layout, opposite to AM Hospital, Chandra Layout, Bangalore-560040 Ph: 080-23159121:-** 16436800109470,16436800113811. **Br. Bangalore/J P Nagar: No.13, 15th Cross, 100ft Ring Road, 6th Phase, J P Nagar, Bangalore- 560078, Ph: 080 26549292:-** 18276800148252,18276800133957,18276800148377,18276800134062,18276800155125. **Br. Bangalore/Banaswadi: No 13, Banaswadi Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-560043:-** 14716800086592,14716800089497,14716800091956. **Br. Bangalore / Jalahalli: 17/1, Savithri, S M Road, Jalahalli West, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 015 :-** 15826800065691. **Br. Bangalore / Sadasivanagar : 88, Keerthi, 2nd Main, Palace Guttahalli P O, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560 003 :-** 21986800025046. **Br. Bangalore/Wipro Park Koramangala: Annapoorna Complex, Opp. Wipro Park, No 6,7th Main, 80 Feet Road, 3rd Block ,Koramangala PO, Bangalore Urban, Karnataka- 560 034 Ph. No. 080-25504450 :-** 21996800029005. **Br. Bangalore/kodathi gate: St. Patrick Academy Campus, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram P O, Bangalore- 560 035 Ph. No. 080 28441020 :-** 21716800003275.21716400127607. **Br. Bangalore/Thirupalya: Near Electronic City, Hebgodi Post, Tirupalya, Bangalore- 560 099 Ph: 080-27833335 :-** 21126800009480. **Br. Visweswaraya layout: No. 2, 4th Block, Visweswaraya layout, Manganahalli, Ullal Upanagara P.O., Bangalore-560110 :-** 21676800014740. **Br. Bangalore/K R Puram : Sri Ragh Tower, No. 390, Old Extension, 4th Main, Old Madras Road, Krishnarajapuram, Bangalore Urban, Karnataka- 560 036:-** 15616400021602. **Br. Chikkaballapura: No 1153/3, BB Road, Chikkaballapur- 562 101 :-** 20216400056709. **Br. Doddaballapura: D Cross Road, Doddaballapur, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka- 561 203 :-** 16315500022375,16315500021146. **Br.Bangalore/Marathahalli: No.43, Varthur Main Road, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037,Ph:080-25400111:-** 14546500005711,14546500005752. **Br. Mysore/J P Nagar: #197, Akkamahadevi Road, 10th Cross, B Block, J P Nagar, Mysore, Karnataka- 570 008 :-** 26366400000233.

Bangalore 02-09-2025 Senior Vice President & Zonal Head

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

Short Term Tender Notification
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invite tender from the eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for below mentioned work.

Last date for submission of bid: 30.09.2025 upto 4.00 PM

Sl.No.	Name of the work
1	Construction of "Prajasoudha" Hunasagi Taluk Adalitha Kendra at Hunasagi Taluk, Yadgir District. **Work Indent No:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2025-26/BD/WORK_ INDENT 642 & IFT No.82/2025-26 Date: 30.08.2025. **Amount put to tender:** Rs.6,50,44,436/-

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/2603/AKAR/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD KALABURAGI ZONE, KALABURAGI
Office of the Chief Engineer KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone,
"Jalbhavan", Rajapur, Kusnoor Road, Kalaburagi – 585105. Tel : 08472-220817,
Fax : 08472-260818 E-mail ID : kwbceklb14@gmail.com

No. KWB/CE(K)/TEC/Shahbad NGR/2025-26/622 Date : 30-08-2025

-: NOTICE INVITING TENDER :-

1) Detail of Work: Construction of 5.00 Lakhs Litres Capacity RCC Overhead tank (Shaft Type) on 15mtrs staging to cover areas at old Shahabad from ward No. 01 to 04 and Ramgad Ashraya colony in Shahabad town and Construction of 2.50 Lakhs Litres Capacity RCC Overhead tank (Shaft Type) on 15mtrs staging to cover areas of ward No. 25, 26 and 27 in Shahabad town under Nagarothan (phase-4) (Lumpsum-No Variation) **(Work Indent No : KUWSDB/2025-26 /WS /WORK_INDENT380),** 2) Amount of Estimate: **Rs. 186.23 Lakhs (Excluding GST),** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: Eligible Contractors, 4) Details of Tender application amount and EMD amount: Rs. 2,80,000/-, 5) Period of Completion: 09 Months, 6) Date and Time for commencement of downloading of tender documents from the e-procurement portal : **02-09-2025 after 13:00 hours**, 7) Date & Time of Pre-Bid Meeting: **09-09-2025 at 11:30 hours**, 8) Last Date and Time for receipt of Tenders: **17-09-2025 upto 17:30 hours**, 9) Date and Time for Opening of Tender : **19-09-2025 after 11:00 hours**, 10) Addl. information: Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone, "Jalbhavan", Rajapur, Kusnoor Road, Telephone: 08472-220817, E-mail ID : kwbceklb14@gmail.com, 11) Address of E-portal: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Chief Engineer KUWS & D Board, Kalaburagi Zone, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/451/KSMC&A/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
KMCRI/SUP(5)/Dental/Tender-01/185/2025-26 Dated 2-09-2025

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇವರು **ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರದಾರರು, ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರು, ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಏಜೆಂಟ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವಿತರಕರಿಂದ ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.&ಆರ್.ಐ. ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ Dental ವಿಭಾಗದ OPG Machine** ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು **ಪೂರೈಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ** ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 1999 ಶಾಸನ 2000 ಅನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೊಸೆಸಿಂಗ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **htpps://ww.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡದೇ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- (ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು),
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.SEE-SCADA/EE(D)/AEE-Proj/F-48/2025-26/2234-35 & 2236-37 Date: 02.09.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through kpp portal Mode Only)

1) Bid Enquiry No. **KPTCL/CEE-SLDC/SEE-SCADA/CAMC-UPS-008/2025-26 dt 01-09-2025**
KPTCL, invites bid from the OEM/Authorized Agencies for **"Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of Techser Make 2kVA online UPS at 267 locations of KPTCL sub-stations".**

2) Bid Enquiry No. **KPTCL/CEE-SLDC/SEE-SCADA/MFT-007/2025-26 dt 01-09-2025.**
KPTCL, invites bid from the OEM for **"Design, Manufacture & Supply of 1500 Nos. of 3-Phase, 4-Wire Self-powered 0.2S accuracy class Multifunctional Transducers (MFT) for use in KPTCL sub-stations".**

The details can be obtained by logging on to **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 03-09-2025** and the last date & time for receipt of bid is as in e-portal. Any extensions of due date for bid submission will be intimated in the e-portal and if any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

All Corrigendum /Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the bids.

Sd/-, Superintending Engineer (Elecl.,) SCADA, KPTCL,
No.28, Race Course Cross Road, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-09.

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
Executive Engineer, 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru
Tel: 080-22273511, 22100077, Web Site: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Notification No. KHB/CE/Higher Edu Dept/BNU 2nd Ph/KHB/2025-26/SE0300 Dated: 20.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal)

Karnataka Housing Board has invited tender through KPP Portal for appointment of Architectural Engineering Firm (AEF) for the work of Construction of Bengaluru North University New Campus 2nd Phase works at Amaravathi Village, Shidlagatta Taluk, Chikkaballapura District.

Last date for submission of bid is on **04.09.2025 upto 4.00 PM.**

For further information contact below mentioned office address Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru Tel: 080-22273511.**web site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
DIPR/CP/2591/SSC/2025-26 **Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru.**

PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION, KOPPAL
Office of the Executive Engineer, Jawahar Road, Koppal - 583 231,
E-mail : eepredkpl@gmail.com

No. : E.E./P.R.E.D./DN/KPL//DB/TENDER/2025-26/1319 Date : 01-09-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of The Governor of Karnataka, **Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Koppal,** invites item rates tender through KPPP One / Two Cover Systems, from eligible PWD and PRE Department registered contractors through **Standard Bid Document KW-1,2,3 & 4, under head of account 2020-21 DMF GRANT, in Different Talukas of Koppal District.** This scheme is fully funded by the Government of Karnataka. For more information contact above the office. Eligible contractors participate online by entering into KPPP Portal : **http//kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal.

Improvements of Road from Kabbaragi to Bandargal Cross in Kushtagi Taluk. under DMF Grant 2020-21. RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT14430/Call-2. APT : Rs. 202.754 Lakhs EMD : Rs. 304500.00 (Class-2 & Above) Period : 09 Months, 2) Improvements of Road from Hanumsagar - Hanumanal to Gududarkal in Kushtagi Taluk, Period : 03 Months, 3) Improvements of Road from Malgitti to Hablgatti in Kushtagi Taluk, Period : 03 Months.

Tender Processing Fees : As per E-Procurement, Download of Schedule-B in E-proc Portal From : 03-09-2025 time after 10.00 a.m. upto 11-09-2025 Time 16.00 Hours. Tender Receipt Last Dates From : 03-09-2025 Time 11.00 a.m. upto 11-09-2025 Time 16.30 hrs. Technical Bid Open Date and Time (Both Technical & Financial Bids are Opened as same Date : For KW 1 & KW 2 ,KW-3 Works : 12-09-2025 in Office hours. Financial Bid Open Date and Time : For KW 4 After getting Technical approval from Competent authority, Bid will be Opened.

General instructions : 1) Contractors participate in all tenders online only. **2)** Pre-qualification documents should be uploaded by scanning all certificates & other concerned documents online only. **3)** Pre-requisite EMD have to be pay online as per mentioned in eproc-portal.

For more information, contractors need to consult to below signed official, officer, contractors may get the information by going through. **http//kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal. This notified works can be downloaded in **http//kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal from dated : 03-09-2025.**

Note : The undersigned reserves the right to accept any or reject any of the tenders at any stage without assigning the reasons.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
P.R.E. Division, Koppal.

DIPR/Koppal/305/Manipal/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು.
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 13/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.08.2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: 3054–03–337–0–05–200 ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಗಳ ರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, 3054–04–337–1–10–200 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮುಖ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು 51 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅಥವಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ (Standard Tender Document KW - 1, 2 & 3 ರಂತೆ) ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 3ರಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹತೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ರೂ.24.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.75.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಆಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವ 51 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ (ಇ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:24934, 25056, 24716, 24603, 25169, 25180, 26800, 26808, 26813, 24530, 26834, 27000, 26932, 24983, 24960, 25054, 24908, 25028, 26943, 26070, 26937. 27050, 26963, 26056, 24607, 24609, 24616, 24626, 24628, 24633, 24635, 24637, 25075, 25007, 24732, 26031, 24615, 25053, 26799, 26928, 25052, 26981, 24604, 24708, 26804, 26866, 25044, 26960, 24617, 24822, 24613 ದಿನಾಂಕ:09.09.2025 ರಂದು) ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಷಯ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, CHITRADURGA-577501
(District Urban Development Cell, Chitradurga) E-Mail: ka.chitradurga.dudc@gmail.com
No: DUDC/NAGAROTHANA Phase 04/CR 110/2025-26 Date: 30.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, DUDC, Chitradurga District ULBs invites tenders from registered contractors / OEM, Distributer under Chief Minister Amruth Nagarothana (Municipality) Scheme (Phase-4) Project in Chitradurga District. Package works as detailed below:- (Rs. in lakhs) **(1)** DMA/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT46889 Estimate Cost:-63.75lakhs 54.01lakhs EMD Amount:-1,00,000 Period of Construction:-9 Months **(2)** DMA/2025-26/IND5232 Estimate Cost:-10.63lakhs Amount Put to Tender:-7.75lakhs EMD Amount:-19,364 Period of Construction:-3 Months **(3)** DMA/2025-26/IND5233 Estimate Cost:-5.00lakhs Amount Put to Tender:-3.32lakhs EMD Amount:-8,300 Period of Construction:-3 Months **(4)** DMA/2025-26/IND5234 Estimate Cost:-18.00lakhs Amount Put to Tender:-13.28lakhs EMD Amount:-33,195 Period of Construction:-3 Months **(5)** DMA/2025-26/IND5235 Estimate Cost:-63.75lakhs Amount Put to Tender:-49.79lakhs EMD Amount:-99,585 Period of Construction:-3 Months **(6)** DMA/2025-26/IND5236 Estimate Cost:-63.75lakhs Amount Put to Tender:-49.79lakhs EMD Amount:-99,585 Period of Construction:-3 Months. Interested contractors / OEM, Distributer can download the tender documents from the e-Procurement platform and tenders shall be submitted electronically at http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **Calendar of Events for Tenders:- (1)** Last date and Time for Tender Queries / Clarifications 15-09-2025 17.30 Hrs. **(2)** Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders 20-09-2025 17.30 Hrs. **(3)** Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid 22-09-2025 11.00 Hrs. **(4)** Date and Time for Opening of Financial Bid After Approval of Technical Bid Any changes in the tender conditions and Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in any newspapers.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/320/2025-26 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Chitradurga.**

Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam denied bail in 2020 Delhi riots case

HC flags their 'grave role' in alleged conspiracy

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed the bail pleas of former JNU students Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam and others in connection with the alleged larger conspiracy behind the 2020 Delhi riots.

A bench of Justices Shalinder Kaur and Navin Chawla cited the nature of the allegations and noted the state's submission that the case was not one of a routine protest or riot, but a premeditated and well-orchestrated conspiracy to commit unlawful activities threatening the unity, integrity and sovereignty of India.

In view of the submissions, the court said that it faced the arduous task of balancing individual rights with national interests and the safety and security of the general public.

Protests to prosecution

Feb 2020 — Communal violence during anti-CAA protests in northeast Delhi kills 54, injures 700+. Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam booked under UAPA and provisions of IPC as alleged masterminds.

Aug 2020 — Imam arrested in larger conspiracy case.

Sept 2020 — Khalid, others arrested.

2022 — Trial court rejects bail pleas.

2022–24 — Accused move Delhi HC against bail rejections.

Sept 2 — HC dismisses appeals of 10 accused– Khalid, Imam, Mohd Saleem Khan, Shifa Ur Rehman, Athar Khan, Meeran Haider, Abdul Khalid Saifi, Gulfisha Fatima, Shadab Ahmed and Tasleem Ahmed.

July 9, 2025 — HC reserves order on bail appeals.

"Therefore, these appeals do not succeed," the bench said, dismissing the bail pleas.

The court noted that, in the present case, the probative value of the evidence against appellants Sharjeel Imam and Umar Khalid "prima facie and at this stage, cannot be branded as weak".

It also rejected the arguments for parity with co-accused Devangana Kalita, Natasha Narwal, and Asif Iqbal Tanha, who were earlier granted bail.

To assess the contention of parity, the HC emphasised that courts must carefully examine the role attributed to the accused and their position in relation to the incident, especially in comparison to that of the co-accused who has been granted bail.

"It emerges that the role of the appellants, Imam and Khalid, is prima facie grave in the entire conspiracy, having delivered inflammatory speeches on communal lines to instigate a mass mobilisation of members of the Muslim community," the bench said.

In contrast, although the co-accused were present at the conspiratorial meetings and were members of WhatsApp groups, their role was limited when juxtaposed with the appellants, the court said.

Responding to the contention of delay in trial and prolonged incarceration, the court said that the prosecution has strongly alleged a large-scale conspiracy involving numerous individuals and organisations, which led to the mobilisation of thousands in protest within the national capital, resulting in 54 deaths, injuries to several persons, and extensive damage to both public and private property.

Observing that the trial is currently at the stage of hearing arguments on the framing of charges, the court said that this indicates progress in the proceedings.

In view of the 3,000-page chargesheet, 30,000 pages of electronic evidence and the large number of witnesses, the bench observed that the pace of the trial would progress naturally.

The court also dismissed similar bail pleas filed by the other accused in the case.

Persecuted minorities who entered India up to 2024 can stay: MHA

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan who entered India till 31 December 2024, to escape religious persecution, will be allowed to stay in the country without a passport or valid travel documents, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in a new order.

The provision was notified by the MHA on Monday through the Immigration and Foreigners (Exemption) Order, 2025. According to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, members of these persecuted minorities who came to India on or before December 31, 2014, will be granted Indian citizenship.

According to the order, a minority community member from these countries who was compelled to seek shelter in India due to religious persecution or fear of religious persecution and entered the country on or before 31 December, 2024, without valid documents, including a passport or other travel documents, or with valid documents and the validity of such documents has expired, will be allowed to stay in the country.

The order also provided exemptions for Indians coming from Nepal and Bhutan as well as those belonging to Nepal and Bhutan entering India.

The MHA has also issued the Immigration and Foreigners Rules 2025 and the Immigration and Foreigners Order 2025 to deal with related issues.

Biometric information

It has inserted a provision for collecting the biometric information of all foreigners who apply for a visa or seek registration as an Overseas Citizen of India cardholder. They will have to allow their biometric information to be taken by the authority before the grant of such visa or registration as OCI cardholder

Another provision said a person who is identified as a foreigner or considered to be a foreigner while in India shall allow his biometric information to be taken.

The MHA also said, "A foreigner may be refused entry into or stay in India on the following grounds, namely — if he is convicted on charges of anti-national activities, espionage, rape and murder, crime against humanity, terrorist and subversive activity, including arranging financial support or money laundering or hawala for such activities, trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, human trafficking including child trafficking, racketeering in fake travel documents and currency (including cryptocurrency), cybercrime, child abuse, or found involved in such offences."

Employment restrictions

The new provisions also barred foreigners with a valid visa from taking up employment in power or water or in the petroleum sector without the permission of the civil authority.

"A foreigner shall produce, or attempt to produce, or cause to be produced, feature film, documentary film, reality television and web shows or series, commercial television serials or shows and web shows or series, or any other mode or medium as may be specified by the central government from time to time, intended for public exhibition, only with the permission in writing, and subject to specific conditions," the MHA said.

SC upholds bail to accused in Kanhaiya Lal murder case

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed pleas seeking cancellation of bail granted to one of the accused in the murder of Udaipur tailor Kanhaiya Lal in 2022.

A bench of Justices M M Sundresh and Satish Chandra Sharma declined to interfere with the Rajasthan High Court's order granting bail to Mohammed Javed, on petitions filed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Yash Teli, the son of the deceased.

Teli's counsel argued that Javed's role was very serious, as he allegedly provided information about the whereabouts and presence of the deceased to the assailants. He contended that the High Court erred in granting bail without examining in depth the gravity of the offence.

The plea further submitted that the murder was committed in a communally surcharged atmosphere across the country.

According to the NIA, Javed worked in a shop near Lal's establishment and tipped off the assailants about his location.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie

HONEY, DOES THIS DRESS MAKE ME LOOK CHUNKY?
CHUNKY?!! YOU COULDN'T LOOK MORE PERFECT IF YOU TRIED!
REALLY?
YOU'RE THE CHERRY ON TOP OF MY HOT FUDGE SUNDAE! YOU'RE THE HOT SAUCE ON MY HOAGIE!
FLATTERY DOES WORK!

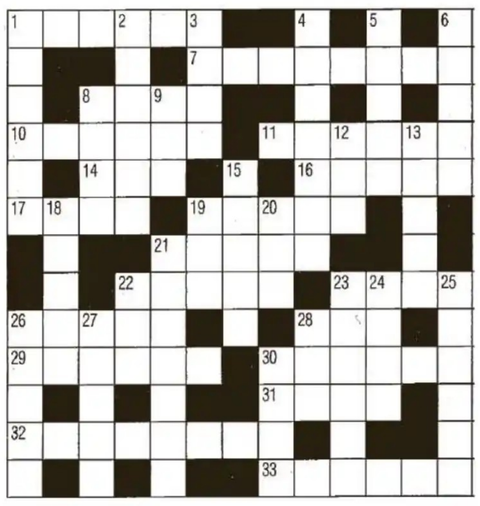
Hagar The Horrible

Beetle Bailey

Peanuts

Marvin

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12238



CRYPTIC

ACROSS
1 Tradesman arranging an escort (6)
7 Early music (8)
8 So long, and thanks again (2-2)
10 Sailor or keeper (6)
11 Superlatively mature (6)
14 Member of a cricket side (3)
16 Points to numbers of facial features (5)
17 Stewed, can they be swimming in liquor? (4)
19 Managed to fish out a piece of paper (5)
21 That part of the wrapper that was torn? (5)
22 One way a jug can be in better condition (5)
23 Nonsense will keep some boys quiet! (4)
26 Cut south, as always (5)
28 A familiar instrumental piece (3)
29 Cause pain as the drama is intensified! (4,2)
30 Songs from Carlos (6)
31 Whence to return in one day (4)
32 Even bail can be arranged if desirable (8)
33 Observing that being out of breath can be nothing! (6)

DOWN
1 Modest form of sachet (6)
2 Father's a cross-country runner (6)
3 It's said to be a river horse (4)
4 Can he manage with just one shoe? (7)
5 Noblemen always ready for punch? (5)
6 In concert studies, they aren't expected to fail (5)
8 Thanks for the £50 – I can hardly believe it! (4)
9 A postage label? (3)
12 In a small case, quietly do wrong (3)
13 Burns some wild grasses (5)
15 Looked unhappy about the modest transportation (5)
18 One backing up new art? (5)
19 What some of the birds say in Porthcawl (3)
20 By being inoperative? (3)
21 Pearl madly involves us in study (7)
22 In Republican eyes, 'Bravest of the Brave' (3)
23 Like the essentials required for naturism? (6)
24 Only one animal on a small area of land (4)
25 Piggish acceptance of sin as being cleansing (6)
26 That which is hastily diminished? (5)
27 An old radio part (5)
28 Sorry to get out of Pasadena (3)
30 French town, a tinned veg centre (4)

ACROSS
1 Invent (6)
7 Shell fragments (8)
8 Lighting device (4)
10 Expensive (6)
11 Numerical symbol (6)
14 Pistachio, say (3)
16 Male voice (5)
17 Droops (4)
19 Trite (5)
21 Ring-shaped roll (5)
22 Tendon (5)
23 Zone (4)
26 Hippopotamus, in short (5)
28 Beverage (3)
29 Breathe in (6)
30 Paper handkerchief (6)
31 Leave out (4)
32 Class, division (8)
33 Perspires (6)

DOWN
1 University grounds (6)
2 Counting frame (6)
3 Catch sight of (4)
4 Metropolis (7)
5 As a joke (2,3)
6 Change (5)
8 Heather (4)
9 Encountered (3)
12 Hair-styling product (3)
13 Regal (5)
15 Beer type (5)
18 Once more (5)
19 Forbid (3)
20 Novel (3)
21 Study of living organisms (7)
22 Health resort (3)
23 Next to (6)
24 Direction (4)
25 Topics (6)
26 Temporary problem (5)
27 Snapshot (5)
28 Boy's name (3)
30 Playthings (4)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12237

CRYPTIC
ACROSS: 1, Sp-i-ed 6, Footy 9, Leonard 10, A-she-n 11, Admit 12, Fe-R-ns 13, Done for 15, Pom 17, Iron 18, Figure 19, A-TT-ic 20, Cheese 22, R-ice 24, Hit 25, C-heated 26, Right 27, Chair 28, Wilts 29, Se-Ct.-ion 30,T-R-ied 31, New-el.
DOWN: 2, Pastor 3, Eleven 4, Den 5, Anger 6, Frantic 7, Odds 8, Tail-or 12, Forte 13, Ditch 14, Nonet 15, Put it 16, Me-wed 18, Fight 19, Aspired 21, H-ither 22, Ravine 23, Cent-re 25, C-h-ats 26, Rise 28, Won.

EASY
ACROSS: 1, Carat 6, Eclat 9, Soprano 10, Spite 11,Tombs 12, Snail 13, Farming 15,Tic 17, Aria 18, Sleuth 19,Taupe 20, Rhebok 22, Bite 24, Yes 25, Sleeper 26, Basil 27, Sneer 28, Attic 29, Advance 30, Halts 31,Tramp.
DOWN: 2, Appear 3, Asthma 4,Toe 5, Wrong 6, Entitle 7, Cool 8, Albeit 12, Sneak 13, Fairy 14, Rises 15,Tulip 16, Cheer 18, Spill 19,Towards 21, Hernia 22, Better 23,Tedium 25, Sitar 26, Beat 28, Act.

◆SU-DO-KU-6691◆

						7		6
6					1		9	
		7			9			
		9	8			4		2
	6	3	4		5	9	7	
5		8			2	1		
			6			8		
	7		2					5
3		5						

medium

6	4	1	8	3	5	2	9	7
8	7	5	1	2	9	3	6	4
3	2	9	4	6	7	8	1	5
4	9	2	3	8	6	7	5	1
7	5	6	2	9	1	4	3	8
1	3	8	5	7	4	9	2	6
5	1	7	9	4	2	6	8	3
9	8	4	6	1	3	5	7	2
2	6	3	7	5	8	1	4	9

SOLUTION TO 6690

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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A1	I1	T1	C3	T1	D2	E1	3rd Letter Triple
L1	Y4	P3	E1	B3	A1	A1	Triple Word Score
E1	M3	N1	R1	E1	A1	A1	
H4	M3	C3	R1	E1	O1	O1	

RACK 1 | RACK 2 | RACK 3 | RACK 4

PAR SCORE 150-160
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

C3	A1	R1	N1	A1	L1		RACK 1 =	24
K5	O1	S1	H4	E1	R1		RACK 2 =	13
S1	H4	A1	R1	P3	E1	N1	RACK 3 =	62
P3	A1	S1	T1	Y4			RACK 4 =	20
							JUDD'S TOTAL	119

PAR SCORE 75-85

JUMBLE®

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

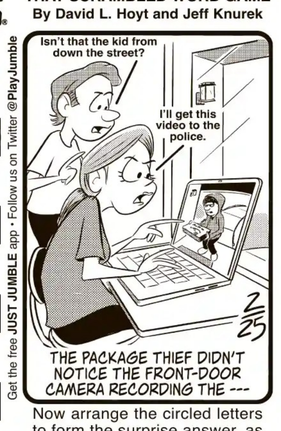
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FIRGE

VOTEC

NMMTEO

SCAION


Isn't that the kid from down the street?
I'll get this video to the police.
THE PACKAGE THIEF DIDN'T NOTICE THE FRONT-DOOR CAMERA RECORDING THE ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

" ◯◯◯◯ " ◯◯ THE ◯◯◯◯◯◯

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CAULK TROLL COWARD SKETCH
Answer: For the audience, several of the songs performed by the cover band — STRUCK A CHORD

HITORI-3145

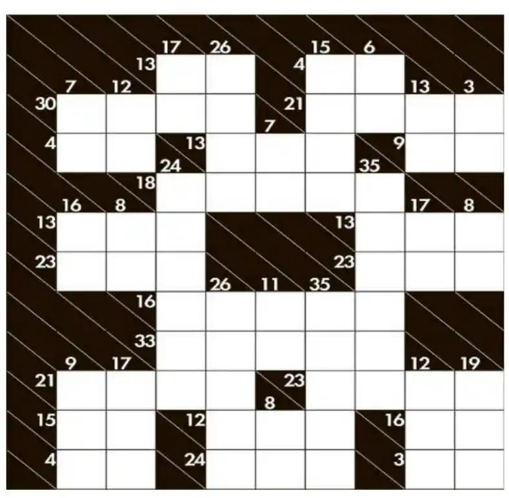
7	4	6	1	7	2	7	3
3	7	7	7	2	8	5	4
6	8	2	5	2	7	2	1
7	1	7	4	7	3	2	6
4	7	5	7	1	6	7	4
7	2	1	6	8	7	3	5
2	5	4	3	2	1	8	8
2	6	7	2	5	7	1	8

SOLUTION TO 3144

■	1	3	4	8	6	7	■
1	■	5	■	6	■	4	7
5	6	2	3	■	1	■	4
3	5	1	6	7	4	8	2
6	■	4	■	2	7	1	5
7	2	■	1	3	5	6	■
8	4	7	■	1	3	2	6
4	■	6	7	■	2	5	■

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3145



SOLUTION TO 3144

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3665

6			7	1				■
	■			2	3		■	
		■	9			3		
		7	2		■	6		
8	2			■				4
			■		■			7
	8	■		9			■	
	■	2	3					
■		9	6	7		4		■

SOLUTION TO 3664

3	2	6	4	1	7	8	9	5
7	8	5	9	2	6	1	4	3
9	4	1	8	3	5	2	6	7
4	1	9	5	7	8	3	2	6
2	6	8	3	9	4	7	5	1
5	7	3	1	6	2	4	8	9
1	5	7	2	4	9	6	3	8
8	3	4	6	5	1	9	7	2
6	9	2	7	8	3	5	1	4

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

Remission is both constitutional and statutory right: Top court

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Supreme Court said on Tuesday that the right to seek remission for convicts — sentenced to life imprisonment in gang-rape cases involving minors — is not only a constitutional right but also a statutory one.

"The right to seek remission is not only a constitutional right under Articles 72 and 161 but also a statutory right. Each state has its own remission policy, which applies even when the sentence is imposed under Section 376DA or Section 376DB," a bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and Justice R Mahadevan said.

The court was hearing a plea challenging the constitutional validity of Section 376DA or 376DB (gang-rape of a girl below 16 years) of the erstwhile Indian Penal Code (IPC).

The court also emphasised that even when a convict is sentenced to life imprisonment for the rest of their natural life under the sections, the individual retains the right to seek remission.

The court, however, did not pass any order on the broader legal challenge to the prescription of a sole type of punishment under Section 376DA.

While keeping the question of law open to be argued in an appropriate case, the top court disposed of the petition.

During the course of the hearing, the Centre supported the constitutional validity of Section 376DA.

Every child has right to affection of both parents: Apex court

NEW DELHI, PTI: Every child has a right to the affection of both parents, and even if they live apart or in different countries, it is important for the child to maintain a relationship with them, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, while allowing a plea filed by a man seeking video interaction with his nine-year-old son who was living in Ireland with his mother, said denying such contact would deprive the child of the love, guidance and emotional support of the father.

The SC noted that at present, the child is living with his mother in Ireland and seems to be settled there. Noting that the conduct of both parents has not been ideal, the top court said their personal differences have grown into a long and bitter conflict, but the court cannot allow the child to become a casualty of this conflict.

The bench said it would not be in his interest to disturb that arrangement at this stage.

Can Guvs, President be held in contempt for bill delays? asks SC

'Verdict will not be influenced by any political party in power'

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought to know what would be the consequences if the President or governors do not follow the timeline for clearing Bills as fixed by the court in its judgment on April 8, 2025, in the case of Tamil Nadu.

The court also expressed doubt over the power to fix straitjacket timelines in the case of all bills.

The apex court also clarified that it is not going to decide the matter on the basis of which political dispensation is in power or was in power. The court said it would only interpret the Constitution and not go into specific instances.

During the sixth day of hearing in the Presidential reference case, a five-judge bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai asked, "Can the governor or the President be hauled up for contempt of court, if the bills are not cleared in terms of timelines?"

To this, the Tamil Nadu government, through senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, replied that 'deemed assent' to the bills can be a consequence.

The court also said certain instances of delay in granting assent to bills cannot justify the laying down of a blanket timeline for Governors and the President to act as per Articles 200 and 201 of the Constitution, respectively.

"If there are individual cases of delay, the aggrieved parties can approach the court to seek relief, and the court may direct that the decision should be taken within a time limit; however, it cannot mean that the court should lay down a general timeline for the actions of the governor and the President," the bench said.

Singhvi contended that the timelines were necessary in view of the repeated instances of Governors withholding Bills indefinitely.

Singhvi said the 'killing' of Bill is available only to the cabinet and nobody else. "It can't be a by Governor," he said.

The counsel further contended that a governor cannot be the final arbiter of a Bill.

"The governor cannot withhold assent, kill a bill, or be a judge in this. He is not the final arbiter or the Super Chief Minister. Ultimately, allegedly unconstitutional Bills are passed everyday, and courts will decide that. Even if the majority introduced it, courts will see it... that is separation of powers," he said.

During the hearing, the bench, also comprising Justices Surya Kant, Vikrant Nath, P S Narasimha and Atul S Chandurkar, also questioned whether the court can grant deemed assent for Bills not acted upon by the Governor.

"This court can just get into the shoes of the governor and consider all 3 options the governor has?" the bench asked.

Singhvi, however, said if governors and the President are exempt from judicial review, then their jurisdiction of power is stretched beyond limits.

He maintained that Article 200's structure is amenable to timelines. "The governor is to take a decision within a reasonable time period," he said.

On this, the bench said, there could be different factual considerations in different cases and asked how there can be the same timeline for all Bills.

COURT'S OBSERVATIONS

- The power of judicial review forms part of the basic structure and courts cannot decline an answer to constitutional questions even if the controversy was political in nature.
- The question is whether a general timeline (for governors and President) can be given under Article 142 of the Constitution.
- We are not going into individual instances whether it's Andhra Pradesh or Telangana or Karnataka but we will only interpret the provisions of the Constitution. Nothing else.

'Unimaginable': PM reacts to abuse of late mother

NEW DELHI, DHNS

In his first response to the abusive language used by a speaker towards his deceased mother during the Opposition's Voter Adhikar Yatra in Bihar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it is "unimaginable" that his mother would be insulted from the Congress-RJD platform in this manner, which was an insult to "every mother and sister in India".

Narendra Modi

"In Bihar, my mother was verbally abused from an RJD-Congress stage. They have not just insulted my mother, but every mother and sister in India. I know you are pained as much as I am," the prime minister said in his address after launching the Jeevika Nidhi Credit Cooperative Federation for Bihar via a video conference.

"Mother is our world. Mother is our self-respect. I had not even imagined this would happen. My mother had nothing to do with politics, so why was she abused by the RJD and Congress? This is upsetting and distasteful," Modi added.

He said that his mother worked hard to raise him. "My mother would be sick, but she kept working and would save up every penny to get us clothes. There are crores of such mothers in our country. The place of a mother is higher than that of gods and goddesses."

Modi also said the insult would resonate with mothers across the country.

"These abuses are not just an insult to my mother — they are an insult to the mothers, sisters and daughters of India. I know how deeply every mother in Bihar must have felt after seeing and hearing this. The pain in my heart is shared by the people of Bihar," the PM said.

The controversy erupted after a video from a rally in Darbhanga went viral. In the clip, a group of youths, seen on stage with microphones and holding photos of Rahul and Tejashwi, were heard hurling abuses at Modi's late mother, Heeraben. The Congress dismissed the incident, alleging it was orchestrated by BJP agents to derail the progress of the yatra.

Maratha quota activist ends stir after breakthrough

Govt accepts his demands excluding 'blanket quota'

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil broke his fast on Tuesday evening after the government agreed to most of his demands and issued multiple GRs, including implementation of the Hyderabad Gazetteer, which states Marathas are Kunbis, withdrawal of cases against the agitators, and help to the families of those who died during the course of the two-year agitation.

The Devendra Fadnavis-led Maha Yuti dispensation, however, rejected a blanket notification declaring all Marathas as Kunbis.

The relevance of the Hyderabad Gazette comes from the fact that the Marathwada region of present-day Maharashtra was part of the erstwhile Hyderabad state during the Nizam-era.

A delegation of the Maharashtra government, headed by Water Resources Minister Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil, who is head of the Cabinet sub-committee on Maratha community issues, accompanied by ministers Uday Samant, Manikrao Kokate and Shivendra Raje Bhosle, met Jarange-Patil in Azad Maidan and broke the deadlock.

"We have been able to explain to Jarange-Patil that blanket reservation cannot be given to a group, as per law, but to a person, who has to claim. He understood this. Accordingly, the GR on the Hyderabad gazetteer was issued. We avoided disturbing the OBC quota," Chief Minister Fadnavis told reporters in Nagpur.

Fadnavis thanked the Cabinet sub-committee and Deputy Chief Ministers Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar for their cooperation in arriving at a decision.

'We have won'

Vikhe-Patil offered juice to Jarange-Patil. Tears rolled down his face as he broke the fast. "We have won," he said with a voice choking with emotion. "Today is Diwali for us as we have got what we wanted," he added.

Soon after, he was taken to a hospital.

"I have maintained my stand from the very first day that we will not let such a dispute happen between Marathas and OBCs anywhere. The decision we will take will not be a decision to take from one and give it to the other. We will make an equal decision for both," the CM said.

Jarange-Patil thanked the government and the Cabinet sub-committee.

Bombay HC's tough stance helps defuse reservation crisis

MUMBAI, DHNS: The strong stance taken by the Bombay High Court over the last couple of days may have played an important role in ending the crisis involving the Maratha reservation issue.

While on Monday, a bench comprising Justices Ravindra Ghuge and Gautam Ankhad heard the matter, on Tuesday, it came up before acting Chief Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Aarti Sathe.

Earlier on August 26, a bench comprising the then Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Sandeep Marne had heard the petitions.

During both the hearings, the court expressed deep concern over the situation in South Mumbai and not only rapped Manoj Jarange-Patil and his team and the protesters but also the Maharashtra government for not foreseeing the situation.

On Monday, the court ordered the Maharashtra government to clear Mumbai's streets of the protesters, and ask them to be at the designated place and in decided numbers.

Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange-Patil breaks his hunger strike by sipping fruit juice offered by Maharashtra minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil. PTI

On Tuesday morning, the high court took it further, asking Jarange and all protesters to vacate the site before 3 pm. "After 3 pm today, we will ensure no one sits there... If need be, we will send someone, or we will ourselves visit the roads and the site to check everyone has left," the bench said.

The police immediately swung into action under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner of Police Dr Pravin Mundhe, and a huge contingent comprising Mumbai Police and Riot Control Police personnel started implementing the order.

"Please cooperate with us... We are implementing court orders...," Mundhe said even as police teams made repeated announcements across the city.

In the court, Senior Counsel Satish Maneshinde, who appeared for Jarange-Patil and other organisers, even tendered an apology for the inconvenience caused by the protesters on the streets of Mumbai. He also argued that the arrangements for the protest were poor.

EC notice to Khera over 2 voter IDs; Congress leader hits back

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Poll authorities on Tuesday issued a notice to senior Congress leader Pawan Khera, asking him to explain how he got enrolled as a voter simultaneously in more than one Assembly constituency in Delhi, hours after the BJP said the Election Commission (EC) should investigate how "Rahul Gandhi's close associate" has managed to get two voter IDs.

Pawan Khera

Khera claimed that BJP IT Cell head Amit Malviya's "morning stunt" has left the EC "bleeding", as the poll body has "failed to maintain the integrity of the electoral rolls" while insisting that he had applied in the prescribed Form 7 seeking the deletion of his name from the New Delhi Assembly voters' list after shifting to Jangpura in 2016.

The Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) of New Delhi issued the notice to Khera, asking him to "show cause as to why action should not be taken" against him.

Soon after the notice was issued, Khera said it was "yet another confirmation of how the EC functions to support the ruling regime." Asking why the Election Commission did not issue a single notice to the one lakh "fake voters" of Mahadevapura constituency exposed by Rahul Gandhi, he said they will not stop exposing the EC's "wrongdoings".

Earlier in the day, Malviya at 9.05 am posted on X details of entries in the name of Khera in the voter's list of New Delhi and Jangpura seats. Incidentally, the DEO posted the notice to Khera at 4.44 pm while the BJP spokesperson Pradip Bhandari also held a presser.

Telangana hands over Kaleshwaram project probe to CBI

HYDERABAD, DHNS: The Telangana government has formally issued orders to hand over the investigation into alleged irregularities in the construction of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) to the CBI.

A government order issued late on Monday by Special Chief Secretary for the Home Department, Ravi Gupta, granted the central agency full powers to investigate suspected corruption, fund siphoning, and irregularities in the execution of the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages.

The order also provided consent under Section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, enabling CBI officers to investigate all accused persons, including public servants, private contractors, and companies connected to the barrage construction. It specifically removed earlier restrictions that had limited central agency jurisdiction in such cases.

The decision follows findings from multiple investigative bodies. The National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) had constituted a panel to examine the reasons behind the sinking of Medigadda Barrage piers.

The NDSA reports revealed that the Medigadda barrage failure resulted from a combination of factors, including planning deficiencies, design flaws, lapses in quality control, and construction defects.

Karunesh Bajaj is new chairman of Audit Bureau of Circulation

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Karunesh Bajaj, executive Vice President (Marketing & Exports), ITC Ltd, has been unanimously elected as the chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC) for 2025-26.

Karunesh Bajaj

With a distinguished career spanning close to three decades in brand building, marketing strategy and leadership across FMCG and retail, Bajaj brings a wealth of expertise to guide the Council in its next phase of growth and governance. Over his 25-year tenure at ITC, he has been instrumental in steering some of India's most iconic brands and strengthening ITC's market standing.

Mohit Jain, Chief Operating Officer (Publishing) and Executive Director Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd Publisher Member on the Council was unanimously elected as the deputy chairman of the Bureau for the year 2025-2026.

Some of the other office bearers are: Mohit Jain – Bennett, Coleman & Co Ltd – Dy Chairman; Dhruba Mukherjee – ABP Pvt Ltd – Honorary Secretary; Riyad Mathew, Malayala Manorama Co Ltd; Girish Agarwal, DB Corp Ltd; Shailesh Gupta, Jagran Prakashan Ltd; Karan Darda, Lokmat Media Pvt Ltd; Pratap G Pawar, Sakal Papers Pvt Ltd; and Adimoolam, Dinamalar.

Parl panel seeks rural coverage data from telecom operators

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC), headed by senior Congress MP KC Venugopal, on Tuesday asked private telecom operators to provide details of coverage of their services in rural areas, sources said.

While examining a CAG report that deals with revenue sharing by telecom service providers with the government, the MPs in the multi-party panel opined that the state-run BSNL is the only service provider that is earnestly serving the rural areas of the country, while the presence of others is practically nil.

Questions were raised about why the private players are not eager to serve the rural areas at a time when the BSNL is serving the areas. The MPs were of the view that, despite its constraints, the BSNL is reaching out to their rural subscribers.

Sources said the panel asked private telecom operators to provide details of their coverage in rural India. The operators have been asked to provide details of their broadband services, as well as call drop rate and action taken to address concerns, among others.

Venugopal referred to complaints raised by BSNL officials about salaries, pension and working conditions and asked Department of Telecom officials to address them at the earliest.

Sources said the PAC also raised concerns over litigation-related issues with telecom providers, as the shortage of staff was leading to a loss of revenue to the exchequer. An inadequate number of staff meant a delay in deduction verification and assessments, they said.

The PAC was of the view that there is a need to have dedicated staff to deal with litigation. They said the delay in litigation was benefiting the telecom operators, and the government was losing money.

Sources said the PAC has asked the DoT to provide details of pending litigation and the follow-up action taken to close it.

BRS suspends Kavitha for 'anti-party activities'

S N V SUDHIR
HYDERABAD, DHNS

The BRS on Tuesday suspended MLC K Kavitha for alleged anti-party activities. The suspension order came a day after Kavitha launched a scathing attack on her cousins — former Irrigation Minister T Harish Rao and former Rajya Sabha member Joginapally Santosh Rao.

Kavitha termed her cousins 'anacondas of corruption', alleging they amassed wealth through the Kaleshwaram project while making her father, K Chandrasekhar Rao, a scapegoat. Her comments came in the wake of the Telangana government's decision to order a CBI probe into alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project.

"Does Harish Rao not have any role in the Kaleshwaram project? Harish Rao, Santosh, and another contractor colluded to amass assets and resources when KCR was working hard to bring water to Telangana. It was precisely why KCR removed Harish Rao as irrigation minister in the second term," Kavitha said on Monday.

K Kavitha

Until now, Kavitha had refrained from naming anyone publicly since May, when she referred to 'demons' and 'coverts' surrounding her father and began distancing herself from party activities.

"The recent behaviour and ongoing anti-party activities of party MLC Mrs K Kavitha are damaging the BRS party. The party leadership is taking this matter seriously. Party president K Chandrasekhar Rao has decided to suspend Kavitha from the party," the BRS said in an official statement.

While a section of BRS attributed the family rift to Congress manipulation, the grand old party countered that it stemmed from internal disputes over asset and property distribution within KCR's family.

KCR reportedly sought feedback from several senior party leaders before deciding to suspend his daughter.

Testing the waters

Sources suggest KCR is testing the waters with this suspension. If Kavitha launches further broadsides against the party, he may not hesitate to dismiss her from the party.

Following her release on bail after spending over five months in Tihar jail for her alleged role in the Delhi liquor scam, Kavitha has been attempting to reposition herself within Telangana's political landscape.

A six-page letter from Kavitha to KCR, dated May 2, which surfaced on social media, created a stir. In the letter, she made pointed observations about the party's functioning and questioned her father's leadership style.

TTV upset with BJP; gives time till December to set things right

E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

After O Panneerselvam, it seems Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) chief T T V Dhinakaran is also upset with the BJP for ignoring him to keep AIADMK and its chief Edappadi K Palaniswami in good humour.

Dhinakaran, whose AMMK joined the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) in 2024 under then BJP state chief K Annamalai, has now announced that he will decide whether to continue travelling with the saffron party for the 2026 elections in December this year.

Until last week, Dhinakaran asserted that he was part of the NDA and it was the AIADMK that joined the combine late and even advocated for relaunching negotiations with OPS, who quit the alliance in July.

Palaniswami's insistence that Dhinakaran and OPS should not be part of the AIADMK-led alliance is the reason behind the BJP maintaining a distance from both. Before consolidating his position in the AIADMK, Palaniswami had reported to both OPS and Dhinakaran as chief minister and deputy general secretary of the party. However, he expelled both from the AIADMK.

Sources told *DH* that Dhinakaran is disappointed with the BJP for not convincing Palaniswami about the need to strengthen the alliance by including parties like the AMMK and OPS to put up a united front against the formidable DMK-led Secular Progressive Alliance (SPA). The sources also alleged that new TN BJP chief Nainar Nagenthiran seems to believe that AIADMK alone is sufficient and there is no need to include smaller parties in the NDA.

If the BJP leadership doesn't sort out the issues and make a categorical announcement that AMMK is part of the NDA by December, Dhinakaran might explore other options. However, sources said, he is hopeful that the saffron party will realise the need for his support and that of OPS to win seats in Southern Tamil Nadu, especially in constituencies dominated by Mukulathors, an OBC community, to which belong.

Xi hosts 'old friend' Putin, Kim in challenge to West

Closer ties may change military dynamics in the Pacific

BEIJING, REUTERS

Russian President Vladimir Putin with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Tuesday. AFP

China's President Xi Jinping convened his Russian and North Korean counterparts in Beijing for the first time on Tuesday, a show of solidarity among countries shunned by the West for their role in Europe's deadliest war in 80 years.

Xi hosted Vladimir Putin for talks at the Great Hall of the People and later at his personal residence, whom he called his "old friend". Hours later, Kim Jong Un's armoured train arrived in the Chinese capital. North Korean state media confirmed Kim's arrival, accompanied by his daughter Kim Ju Ae.

Xi, Putin and Kim are set to take centre stage at a massive military parade to commemorate the end of World War II on Wednesday. Xi is expected to showcase his vision for a new global order as US President Donald Trump's "America First" policies strain Western alliances. China is also expected to display new weapons for the first time in public.

Beyond the ceremony, analysts are watching for signals of closer defence ties following a pact signed by Russia and North Korea in June 2024, and a similar agreement between Beijing and Pyongyang — developments that could reshape military dynamics in the Asia-Pacific. Such an outcome would also challenge Trump, who has often emphasised his personal ties with all three leaders while promoting his peacemaking credentials as Russia's three-and-a-half-year war in Ukraine continues.

In a thinly veiled swipe at his rival across the Pacific, Xi told a summit of over 20 non-Western leaders on Monday: "We must continue to take a clear stand against hegemonism."

As Putin and Xi met, Russia's Gazprom and China National Petroleum Corporation signed a deal to increase gas supplies and penned an agreement on a new pipeline that could supply China for 30 years.

The leaders later retired to the Chinese president's personal residence to continue talks. Putin and Kim may also hold a meeting following Kim's arrival.

At a time when Trump has set his sights on a Nobel Peace Prize, any new concentration of military power in the East that includes Russia will ring alarm bells for the West.

"Trilateral military exercises between Russia, China and North Korea seem nearly inevitable," wrote Youngjun Kim, an analyst at the US-based National Bureau of Asian Research, in March.

Pakistan Army chief joins Sharif in Xi, Putin meetings

NEW DELHI, DHNS

(L-R) Pakistani Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Tuesday. PTI

Pakistan Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir on Tuesday joined Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin — just two and a half months after US President Donald Trump hosted him at the White House and praised his role in helping avert a nuclear war with India.

Munir, accused by New Delhi of provoking the April 22 carnage in Jammu and Kashmir, sat beside Sharif during the meeting with Xi at the Great Hall in Beijing and posed for a photograph with the Chinese leader. Xi's talks with Sharif and Munir came two days after his bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin.

Like Modi, Sharif attended the SCO summit of the 10-nation bloc, led by China and Russia and often viewed as a counterweight to NATO. He and Munir are expected to join other leaders at a military parade in Beijing marking the 80th anniversary of victory in China's war against Japan and World War II.

Xi hailed the "ironclad" China-Pakistan friendship, forged "through the trials of history", and said Beijing was ready to work with Islamabad on an upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC 2.0) and a new free trade agreement. India opposes the corridor as it runs through territory in Jammu and Kashmir under illegal Pakistani occupation.

Munir, elevated to Field Marshal after May's cross-border flare-up, has been vocal on Kashmir, calling it Pakistan's "jugular vein".

In April, he defended the two-nation theory and urged Muslims to stress their differences with Hindus — remarks India said fuelled the April 22 killings in Kashmir.

Munir also visited the US last month, boasting of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and threatening to destroy planned Indian dams on the Indus. He had earlier met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in both Beijing and Islamabad.

On Tuesday, Munir also accompanied Sharif to talks with Putin, who called Pakistan a "traditional partner in Asia" and urged stronger trade ties despite recent declines. Sharif replied that Pakistan sought "supplementary and complementary" relations with Russia, while respecting Moscow's ties with India.

Aftershocks hit Afghanistan as death toll tops 1,400

Survivors in Afghan quake zone face night without shelter

MAZAR DARA, AFP

A view of a damaged house following a deadly earthquake in Mazar Dara, Afghanistan, on Tuesday. REUTERS

Strong aftershocks from a powerful earthquake that killed more than 1,400 people at the weekend rattled eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday as survivors in remote, hard-hit villages prepared for another night without shelter.

Temporary shelters had still not reached the Mazar Dara area of Kunar province, an AFP journalist said, with roads blocked to the remote, mountainous region bordering Pakistan where the worst of the earthquake was felt.

"There is no food... there is nothing, everything has been buried in the rubble," Nurgal district official Ijaz Ulhaq Yaad told AFP.

Residents, including elderly people and children, were "in the open air" with little to protect them from wet weather, he said, adding that "we still feel strong aftershocks".

A 5.2-magnitude earthquake jolted the region near the epicentre of the magnitude 6.0 earthquake that hit late Sunday night — one of at least six aftershocks recorded by the US Geological Survey.

"These aftershocks are constant, but they have not caused any casualties yet," Ehsanullah Ehsan, the disaster management spokesman in Kunar, told AFP.

The number of victims from Sunday's earthquake has mounted steadily, with 1,411 people dead and 3,124 injured in Kunar alone, chief Taliban government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said on Tuesday, making it one of the deadliest to hit the country in decades.

Another dozen people were killed and hundreds injured in neighbouring Nangarhar province.

Afghanistan is one of the poorest countries in the world, with dwindling aid since the Taliban seized power in 2021, undermining its ability to respond to disasters.

The devastation could affect "hundreds of thousands", said United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Afghanistan Indrika Ratwatte.

Rescuers searched through the night and all day for survivors in the rubble of homes flattened in Kunar, where more than 5,400 houses were destroyed, government spokesman Hamdullah Fitrat said.

Navarro slams Modi's outreach to Russia, China

WASHINGTON, PTI

President Donald Trump's top trade adviser, Peter Navarro, has described as "troublesome" the show of unity between the leaders of India, Russia and China, saying New Delhi needs to be aligned with Washington, Europe and Ukraine, not with Moscow.

His comments came as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping publicly displayed camaraderie during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin on Monday. "It's troublesome. It's troublesome," Navarro said at the White House when asked about the "show of unity" between Modi, Xi and Putin.

"It was a shame to see Modi getting in bed, as the leader of the biggest democracy in the world, with the two biggest authoritarian dictators in the world, Putin and Xi Jinping. That doesn't make any sense," said Navarro, the Trump administration's Senior Counsellor for Trade and Manufacturing.

His remarks, and the display of friendship between Modi, Putin and Xi, came against the backdrop of possibly the worst phase in India-US relations in more than two decades, with tensions exacerbated by Trump's tariff policy and repeated criticism of New Delhi by his administration.

"I'm not sure what he (Modi) is thinking, particularly since India has been in a cold war and sometimes a hot war with China for decades. So we hope that the Indian leader comes around to seeing that he needs to be with us and Europe and Ukraine and not with Russia on this, and he needs to stop buying the oil," Navarro said.

The Trump administration has imposed 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs on India and an additional 25 per cent levy on Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties imposed on India to 50 per cent, among the highest in the world.

India has called the tariffs imposed by the US "unjustified and unreasonable".

India has said that its energy procurement is driven by national interest and market dynamics.

UK cautions students against overstaying visa term

LONDON, PTI: The British government has begun a direct messaging campaign to caution overseas students, including Indians, against overstaying their visas or claiming asylum as their study visas expire.

Home Secretary Yvette Cooper used a statement in the House of Commons on Monday to highlight her plans to fix a "broken" asylum system and to complete a complete overhaul of the appeals system.

An 'Immigration White Paper' released earlier this year had flagged a series of problems involving the "misuse and exploitation of student visas", which led to increasing numbers of asylum claims from students at the end of their course. "We are taking a series of practical steps to tackle the chaos," Cooper told the BBC.

"Up to 15,000 students each year end up claiming asylum often as they come to the end of their visa, even when things haven't changed in their home country. Then going into the asylum system, sometimes staying there for years, that also causes problems with asylum," the minister said.

"If nothing has changed in their country, people should not be claiming asylum at the end of a student course. We need to clamp down on that kind of misuse and that's why we are sending these messages to be very clear to people, the asylum system is not for people who just want to extend their visas," she said.

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: W_LLH_09_2025-26_R2, Dated: 29.08.2025. E-Tender (Open Tender) is invited online by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Elect., C&W Workshop, Eastern Railway, Liluah, Howrah - 711204 from tenders having technical capabilities for the following work : **Name of the Work :** (i) Electrification of work named "Liluah-Renovation of Heritage Museum & Upgradation of IBH Complex" (Schedul-A) & (ii) Electrification of work named "Lilluah Renovation/Improvement of existing dilapidated heritage buildings/Institute of Liluah Workshop." ("Schedule-A-1)." **Approx cost of Works :** ₹ 1,40,90,743.12/-; **Earnest Money** : ₹ 2,20,500.00/-; **Tender Closing Date & Time** : 22.09.2025 at 14.00 hrs. Website where complete Details of Tender is available: **www.ireps.gov.in** MISC-189/2025-26
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Dy. Chief Engineer (CON), South Eastern Railway, Tatanagar invites E-tender for the following work. Following tender have been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in** The tender will be closed **at 14.00 hrs.** on due date. **e-Tender Notice No.: SER-DCE-CON-TATA-04-2025, Date: 20.08.2025. Brief Description of works:** Construction of New Office Building (G+2) & extension of ORH at Tatanagar, 8 nos. Type-II Quarter at Badampahar (BMPR) and 4 nos. Type-II Quarter at Kendujhargarh (KDJR) station including Electrical, S&T and other ancillary work under the jurisdiction of Dy. Chief Engineer (Con), Tatanagar. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 14.13 Crore. **Bid Security:** ₹ 8,56,400. **Completion Period:** 18 months. **Closing Date:** 12.09.2025. Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for this item will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders. **(PR-587)**

Rail Wheel Plant/Bela
(Distt. - Saran), Bihar - 841221

E-Tender Notice No.:- **EL-Testing-OT-2025-26RT, Dated: 30.08.2025**, Dy. CME/HQRail Wheel Plant, Bela, for and on behalf of the President of India invites online "e-Open Tender" through Indian Railways E-Procurement System (IREPS) for under mentioned work. **(1) Name of the work with its location and completion period:** Testing of 132/11 KV switchyard equipment at RWP, Bela. Completion period 5 Months. **(2) Approx. cost of the work:** Rs. 515070/- (Rs. Five lakh Fifteen Thousand Seventy only inclusive of GST @18% **(3) Earnest money to be deposited:** Rs.10,300 (Rs. Ten Thousand Three Hundred only). **(4) Cost of Tender Document:** Rs.2000 (Rs.Two Thousand Only, Non-Refundable **(5) Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender:** Bid start from 08.09.2025 on **www.ireps.gov.in**. Tender Closing at 14.30 hrs. on 22.09.2025. Tender Opening on 22.09.2025 at 15:00 or after. **(6) Web site particulars, Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.:** For full details and submission of bid kindly visit Portal (IREPS) **www.ireps.gov.in**. The prospective firms/bidders submitting bid are advised to remain in touch with IREPS Portal (**www.ireps.gov.in**) for updates including Addendum/Corrigendum/Cancellation with respect to the above tender because no such any notice/information concerned that shall be published in newspaper.

Dy. CME/HQ/RWP/Bela
RWP/CPRO/ADVT/2025-26/63

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Public are hereby informed that my clients are intending to purchase the schedule property from its owner M/s S.I.Hospitals Pvt Ltd Represented by its Director Smt.K.S.Indraja W/o.Dr.Suriraju.V, Residing at No.67, Serpentine Road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore.

Any person/s company Financial Institution, Firm etc, having any claim or objection for the proposed purchase or having any right, title or interest in the Schedule Property may contact or should lodge such claim and objection in writing with supporting documents within FIFTEEN DAYS from the date of publication failing which it will be presumed that there are no valid claims charges and encumbrance whatsoever over the Schedule Property and my client would proceed to complete the sale transaction, any claim received Lodged thereafter will not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing No.106 (old No.107/1 & 106), in AECS Layout, formed by Aircraft Employees Co-operative Society Ltd, of Sy No.64/4, 65/1, 2, 6 & 7, situated at Nagashettyhalli Village, BNTQ, presently comes under the limits of BBMP, having New BBMP E-PID No.8494005729 (old PID No.100-6-106),Presently known as Sanjaynagar, Bangalore, Ward No.19-Sanjayanagar, measuring East to West 104 Feet and North to South (48.5 + 59)/2 & (78 + 62)/2, the total area of the site is 6567.2 Sq. Feet. and bounded on East by: Road, West by : Property bearing No.106, North by : Private property and South by : Road along with entire building constructed thereon.

A.M.GAJENDRA, Advocate
No.2, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main, Srinivasanagar, Kathriguppe Main Road,
Bangalore – 560 085. Ph. No.-9845562465
Bangalore Dated: 01.09.2025

Landslide wipes out Sudan village, killing hundreds

KHARTOUM, AFP: Sudanese authorities, the United Nations and aid groups scrambled on Tuesday to respond to a devastating landslide in Sudan's Darfur region that buried an entire mountain village, killing hundreds of people.

Heavy rain triggered the disaster on Sunday, flattening the village of Tarasin in the remote Jebel Marra range, the rebel Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM) faction, which controls the area, said. UN humanitarian coordinator in Sudan Luca Renda said in a statement that "the United Nations and our humanitarian partners are mobilising to provide support to the affected population."

Citing sources on the ground, Renda said the death toll from the landslide was believed to be between 300 and 1,000. UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said the full scale of the disaster remains unclear "as the impacted area is extremely hard to reach". The SLM faction, led by Abdulwahid al-Nur, had earlier estimated the death toll at more than 1,000 people, with only one survivor.

That survivor, according to his uncle Fath al-Rahman Ali Abdelnour, suffered multiple fractures to both legs and a serious head injury.

People inspect the debris after a landslide devastated the village of Tarasin in Sudan on Tuesday. AFP

Very disappointed with Putin over Ukraine war: Trump

WASHINGTON, REUTERS

US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday he was "very disappointed" in Russian President Vladimir Putin and added, without elaborating, that his administration was planning actions to reduce casualties in Russia's war in Ukraine.

The Republican leader also said he was not concerned about warm ties between Russia and China.

Trump held a summit with Putin in Alaska in mid-August and subsequently met Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and key European and NATO leaders at the White House.

Following those meetings, Trump said he expected Zelenskyy and Putin to hold a bilateral meeting before a trilateral summit that would also include him. Zelenskyy has said Russia was doing everything possible to block a meeting with Putin, while Moscow insists the agenda is not ready. "I am very disappointed in President Putin, I can say that, and we will be doing something to help people live," Trump told The Scott Jennings Radio Show.

Trump assured Zelenskyy that Washington would help guarantee Ukraine's security in any deal. He also renewed a threat to impose further sanctions on Russia if there was no progress towards a peaceful settlement.

Russia currently occupies about a fifth of Ukraine, and Trump has said "land-swapping" and territorial adjustments would be essential for any settlement.

Ukraine opposes formally recognising any of its land as Russian but has tacitly acknowledged it will almost certainly have to accept some de facto territorial losses.

Asked in the interview if he was worried about "an axis forming against the United States with China and Russia", Trump replied: "I am not concerned at all." He added: "We have the strongest military in the world, by far. They would never use their military against us. Believe me."

5 killed during attack on Pakistan paramilitary HQ

PESHAWAR, PTI: At least five terrorists were killed on Tuesday after they attacked the headquarters of a paramilitary force in Pakistan's restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Six policemen were injured in subsequent gunfights with the terrorists.

The militants stormed the Federal Constabulary (FC) Lines in the Bannu district bordering north Waziristan and Afghanistan after a suicide bomber rammed an explosives-laden car near its main gate, District Police Officer (DPO) Saleem Abbas Kalachi said. One of the terrorists was killed by security force personnel in a gunfight.

In subsequent clashes, four more militants were killed in joint operations by the police, paramilitary, and other security personnel.

During the exchange of fire, a Station House Officer (SHO) from the Cantonment Police Station was critically injured, while five other policemen sustained injuries.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Publics are hereby informed that my client **M/s DS-Max Properties Pvt Ltd**, having its office at No. 1854, 17th Main, 30th 'B' Cross, HBR Layout, 1st Stage, 5th Block, Bengaluru- 43 have intend to enter into **Absolute Sale Deed** with owner, **Smt Alka Ratan Lath** w/o Sri Ratan Babulal Lath is the absolute owner of residential converted undeveloped vacant land bearing property No:BBMP Khatha No: **208/59**, (earlier Khatha No 196/19), **Block No. 19**, carved out of **Sy.No.59**, in vide; Official Memorandum No.**ALN(NAY)SR:235/2015-16**, dated **02/12/2016**, for residential use, issued by Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, situated at **Chokkanahalli Village**, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently with a revenue jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike in BBMP Ward No.5, Bengaluru, measuring in total **712.57 Sq. mtrs** or **(118 x 65 = 7,670 Sq. ft)** of E-PID No.**1912313469** and bounded on: **East by:** 30 Feet Road, **West by:** Block No.18 in Sy.No.59, **North by:** 30 Feet Road, **South by:** Block No.33 in Sy.No.59 and referred to as **"schedule property".**

Any person or Any promoters or Any Authority having any asserting right, title, interest and claims to oppose for Absolute Sale Deed of schedule property and further having any manner of right, title, claims etc., and may lodge their objections, claims over the property along with relevant papers in support of their claims, right to the below address within **10** days from the date of this notice, if any objections fails to comply, my client shall take further steps and deemed for entering into Absolute Sale Deed of property.

LINGARAJ. S. NADAGOUDA., ADVOCATE
No.1854, 17th Main, 30th 'B' Cross, HBR Layout, 1st Stage, 5th Block, Bangalore - 560 043.
Mob : 96204 74780 , 94481 35970

झारखण्ड सरकार
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह

ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सूचना
ई–निविदा प्रसंग सं० :– **RCD/GIRIDIH/1003/2025-26**
दिनांक :– **02.09.2026**

1.	कार्य का नाम	पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह अन्तर्गत "दलपतडीह **PWD** पथ से खटपोंक, खोरो, बराईपट, नयनपुर पथ (कुल लम्बाई 19.412 कि0मी0) तक चौड़ीकरण, मजबूतीकरण / पुनर्निर्माण कार्य वर्ष 2025–26 **(Job. No. CRF-JHR-2025-26-75)**"
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	रू० 89,86,10,760.00 (नवासी करोड़ छियासी लाख दस हजार सात सौ साठ रूपये मात्र)
3.	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	24 (चौबीस) माह
4.	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने की तिथि एवं समय	12.09.2025 10:30 बजे पूर्वाह्न
5.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	09.10.2025 12:00 बजे दिन तक
6.	**Pre-Bid** बैठक	18.09.2025 12:00 बजे दिन
7.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का नाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।
8.	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क नं०	9162888865
9.	ई–प्रोक्योरमेट सेल का हेल्प लाईन नं०	0651–2446007

नोट :– प्राक्कलित राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है।
अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट पर देखें :–
http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in
E-mail ID : eercdgiridih-jhr@nic.in
Tel. No. – 06532 - 227054

Sd/-
कार्यपालक अभियंता,
PR 361081 (Road)25-26*D पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।

Modi unveils first made-in-India semiconductor chip

It's a 32-bit microprocessor developed in ISRO's lab

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday unveiled India's first indigenously developed microprocessor, marking a milestone in the country's efforts to reduce dependence on imported chips, which are critically important for modern manufacturing, especially advanced electronics and automated systems.

The chip 'Vikram 32-bit processor' has been developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Semiconductor Laboratory, based in Mohali, Punjab.

Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw presented the chip to Prime Minister Modi at the inaugural ceremony of the Semicon India 2025 event.

Vaishnaw said the chip was designed to withstand the harsh environmental conditions of space launch vehicles. The new chip officially named VIKRAM3201 can be used in defence systems, aerospace technologies, advanced automotive solutions, and high-reliability energy systems among others.

"Just a few years ago, we met for the first time to make a new beginning driven by our Prime Minister's farsighted vision. In a short span of 3.5 years, we have the world looking at India with confidence. Today, the construction of five Semiconductor units is going on at a rapid pace," Vaishnaw said.

Vikram chip has been developed through the government-backed research and development initiative under the India Semiconductor Mission, which was launched in 2021.

Under this mission, the government has introduced financial incentive plans to support domestic manufacturing of semiconductor chips.

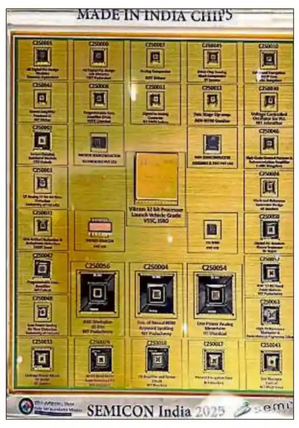
The government has sanctioned 23 design projects under the Design Linked Incentive scheme, while 10 semiconductor manufacturing projects worth over Rs 1.6 lakh crore have been approved across Gujarat, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.

Addressing the inaugural session of Semicon India 2025, Prime Minister Modi said the government was working to ensure faster approvals to reduce the time it takes to start manufacturing semiconductors in India.

"India is now moving from backend to becoming a full stack semiconductor nation. The day is not far when India's smallest chip will drive the world's biggest change," Modi said.

Highlighting the growing importance of semiconductors, Modi said, "Oil was black gold, but chips are digital diamonds. Our last century was shaped by oil. The fate of the world was determined by oil wells. The global economy fluctuates depending on how much petroleum is produced from these oil wells. But the power of the 21st century has been confined to a tiny chip. These chips may be small, but they have the power to give a big boost to the world's progress."

"India's semiconductor mission has another special feature. India is moving ahead in this field with the most advanced technologies in the world. It is our focus that emerging technologies get new power from chips made in India. Our Design Centers being built in Noida and Bangalore are working on making some of the most advanced chips in the world. These are chips in which billions of transistors are being stored. These chips will give new power to the immersive technologies of the 21st century," he added.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw unveil the first 'Made-in-India' chip, during the inauguration of 'Semicon India 2025' at Yashobhoomi, in New Delhi, on Tuesday. PHOTO: PTI

Netherland's ASML pitches for India business

BLOOMBERG: Semiconductor equipment maker ASML Holding NV made a pitch for business in India as Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeks to make chips locally and reduce imports of the critical technology.

The Veldhoven, Netherlands-based company, an important supplier to Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and Samsung Electronics Co., wants to build ties with Indian chipmakers in the year ahead, Chief Executive Officer Christophe Fouquet said Tuesday at the Semicon India summit in New Delhi.

"We are dedicated to supporting India's ambition whether through collaboration, knowledge exchange or talent," Fouquet said. "Our advanced lithography solutions can help Indian fabs to achieve cutting-edge performance."

Next-gen GST reforms will reduce compliance burden: FM

'They will make the economy more open & transparent'

CHENNAI, DHNS

On the eve of the GST council meeting, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the planned roll out of the next-generation GST reforms will render the economy more open and transparent with further reduction in compliance burden especially for small businesses.

In her address at the 120th Foundation Day of the Kumbakonam-based City Union Bank (CUB) here, Sitharaman asked banks to not only expand credit but also provide momentum for infrastructure development, ensuring timely and need-based funding to MSMEs, and bringing the unbanked into the fold of formal banking, to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

"The guiding principles for this transformation must be trust, technology, and transparency," she said. On GST, the Finance Minister recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day address in which he announced the creation of a task force for rolling out next generation reforms with a clear mandate to simplify regulations.

"The planned roll out with the council meeting tomorrow and day after, will set the economy absolutely open and transparent with further reduction and compliance burden making it easier for small businesses to thrive," Sitharaman added. She was referring to the two-day GST council meet that begins on Wednesday.

On non-performing assets, Sitharaman said the scheduled commercial banks have recorded massive improvement in their asset quality, with the gross NPAs declining to multi-decadal lows of 2.3% and net NPAs reaching 0.5% at the end of the last fiscal.

"Soundness and resilience of India's scheduled commercial banks are supported by robust capital buffers, multi-decadal low non-performing loans and strong earnings," she added.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaking at the 120th foundation day celebrations of City Union Bank, in Chennai, on Tuesday. PHOTO: PTI

TCS expands partnership with Tryg, signs new €550 mn deal

MUMBAI, PTI

India's largest IT services company TCS on Tuesday announced bagging a €550 million (around Rs 5,642 crore), seven-year deal from Scandinavian insurer Tryg.

TCS and Tryg have a 15-year partnership, and the new deal will ensure a digital transformation for the Scandinavian client, a statement said.

The IT services company will use AI and cloud solutions to simplify the insurer's IT landscape, including augmenting delivery capability, automating core processes, and elevating customer experience to drive its strategic transformation journey.

Tryg's group chief executive Johan Kirstein Brammer said this is an extension of a partnership with TCS.

"We are simplifying our IT landscape enabling us to further invest in new technology and develop our business across Scandinavia," Brammer said.

"... we will help Tryg accelerate its transformation into an agile, technology-led enterprise with AI at its core," TCS chief executive K Krithivasan said.

In the past, TCS has developed a unique model to drive an industry-first business case for Tryg's Danish and Nordic customers while achieving their strategic business goals.

TCS has been present in Denmark and Nordics for over three decades and has over 20,000 employees serving clients across banking, financial services, insurance, retail and consumer packaged goods, travel transportation and logistics, telecom, manufacturing, life sciences, and tech services.

TCS shares closed flat at Rs 3,112.15 apiece on the BSE on Tuesday, as against a 0.26% correction on the benchmark.

Tata Capital sets stage for $2 bn IPO; valuation seen at $18 bn

NEW DELHI, PTI: Tata Capital has wrapped up a series of investor roadshows across major global financial hubs, setting the stage for its much-anticipated $2 billion (Rs 17,200 crore) initial public offering (IPO) in the week beginning September 22, according to people familiar with the development.

The non-banking finance company is expected to debut on the bourses by September 30, making it the largest IPO of 2025.

Market participants said the successful investor outreach has positioned the company well for its market debut, with valuations now expected to touch $18 billion.

This marks a sharp jump from the $11 billion valuation when TataCapital filed confidential IPO papers in April.

CCI clears Manipal Hospitals' Sahyadri Hospitals acquisition

NEW DELHI, PTI: Competition watchdog CCI on Tuesday cleared healthcare major Manipal Hospitals' proposal to acquire Pune-based Sahyadri Hospitals from global investor Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board in a deal estimated at Rs 6,400 crore.

"The proposed combination involves the acquisition of up to 100 per cent shareholding by the acquirer (Manipal Hospitals Pvt Ltd) in the target (Sahyadri Hospitals Pvt Ltd) in multiple tranches," the Competition Commission of India (CCI) said in a release. The companies did not share the deal size, but industry sources estimate the transaction to be in the range of Rs 6,200-6,400 crore.

"CCI approves the proposed combination involving acquisition of up to 100 per cent shareholding by Manipal Hospitals Pvt Ltd in Sahyadri Hospitals Pvt Ltd," the fair trade regulator said in a post on X. In July, Manipal Hospitals announced that it had inked definitive agreements with Ontario Teachers' for the acquisition. The Bengaluru-based healthcare major said the acquisition of Sahyadri Hospitals will bring Manipal's total bed count to about 12,000, making it one of India's largest hospital networks.

SMBC's 24.99% stake in Yes Bank cleared

NEW DELHI, PTI: Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Tuesday cleared Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation's (SMBC's) proposal to acquire up to 24.99% stake in private sector lender Yes Bank. SMBC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc. (SMFG). It is among the leading foreign banks in India, and SMFG's wholly-owned subsidiary, SMFG India Credit Company, is among the largest diversified NBFCs in India. "The proposed combination relates to the acquisition of share capital and voting rights of Yes Bank by SMBC," the CCI said in a release.

Karnataka seeks central relief as US tariffs hit exporters

BENGALURU, DHNS: Minister for Transport and Muzrai, Ramalinga Reddy on Tuesday urged the union government to support exporters affected by 50% tariffs imposed by the US administration by announcing incentives and relief measures to cushion the impact. Sectors such as textiles, engineering goods, leather, and gems & jewellery have been impacted severely.

Speaking at the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry's (FKCCI) 20th Export Excellence Awards function, Reddy said Karnataka topped India's exports in FY 2024–25 with $159 billion, driven by IT, aerospace, biotechnology, coffee and textiles.

"Exports are not just about foreign exchange earnings; they are about jobs, competitiveness and India's global positioning," he said.

M G Balakrishna, President of FKCCI urged exporters to reduce dependency on the US by diversifying their export markets, meet EU benchmarks through CE certification and sustainability labels, and focus on emerging economies like Vietnam, Indonesia and South Korea under the China+1 strategy.

Reddy presented export awards to 40 outstanding exporters from the state. Sansera Engineering, Chirayu Exports and Srinu Engineering Industries were among the top exporters.

Apple opens its first South India store in Bengaluru

BENGALURU, DHNS: Apple on Tuesday opened the company's fully-owned retail store in Bengaluru, marking its foray into South India. Called Apple Hebbal, the store is located at Phoenix Mall of Asia in North Bengaluru. It is the third Apple Store in India, after the Apple BKC (Mumbai) and Apple Saket in Delhi, that were opened in 2023.

"We're delighted to open Apple Hebbal, a community hub that celebrates Bengaluru's spirit of innovation. We can't wait to connect with people here and inspire them to create, collaborate, and do amazing things with Apple. We're excited to continue to bring Apple experiences to customers across India, who inspire us with their creativity and passion," said Deirdre O'Brien, Apple's senior vice president of Retail and People.

The store's 70 team members hail from 15 states across India. They can communicate with customers in Kannada, Hindi and 25 other regional languages.

The Apple Hebbal store, which is considerably smaller compared to the other two retail outlets in India, features Apple's trademark minimalist store design, complete with a large glass facade and smooth oak wooden tables inside. It has open layouts with dedicated counters for prime products such as iPhones, MacBooks, iMac, iPads, Apple TVs and Watches in addition to accessories such as Apple Pencil, AirTags and more.

Apple Hebbal is carbon neutral. It runs on 100% renewable energy.

Apple Hebbal plays as omnichannel, where people can order on the official online store or mobile app and pick up the devices at the store. It also serves as a device repair centre.

Besides Bengaluru, the US technology major is slated to open the Apple Koregaon Park Store in Pune on September 4. Later this year, Apple has plans to add two more stores in Mumbai and Delhi-NCR, taking the tally to six stores in India.

Russian oil gets cheaper for India as US amps up criticism

BLOOMBERG: Russian crude is getting even cheaper for India buyers as New Delhi faces sustained US pressure to cut its oil trade with Moscow, which the Trump administration says is helping fund the war in Ukraine. The price of Urals crude has dipped to a discount of $3 to $4 a barrel to Brent on a delivered basis, according to people who received offers for the Russian grade, asking not to be identified discussing sensitive information. The price is for cargoes that will load in late September and October, they added. India became a major importer of Russian crude after the start of the war in Ukraine in 2022.

Rupee falls 8 paise to hit record low of 88.18 against US dollar

MUMBAI, PTI: The rupee declined 8 paise to close at an all-time low of 88.18 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, as Indo-US trade deal uncertainty and weak domestic equity markets pressurised the local unit. Forex traders said the rupee is trading near all-time low levels as risks remained skewed to the downside amid uncertainty over US trade tariffs. Moreover, persistent foreign fund outflows or dollar strength could drive further weakness, they added. On Monday, the rupee revisited its all-time intra-day low of 88.33 against the American currency.

GREEN ENERGY

India cuts fossil electricity output as clean generation hits new peak: Maguire

GAVIN MAGUIRE LITTLETON
COLORADO, REUTERS

Clean electricity production in India has surged by 20% to new highs so far this year, giving utilities a rare chance to cut fossil fuel-fired generation and reduce reliance on energy imports for power production.

India's clean electricity sources are also on track to provide a third of its utility electricity for the first time over the next month or so, thanks to record combined output from renewables, hydro and nuclear assets, data from Ember shows. The steep build in home-grown clean electricity comes just as India faces unprecedented scrutiny over its energy import practices, particularly its heavy reliance on sanctioned Russian oil that has triggered stiff new tariffs from the United States.

India also faces pressure to boost imports of US LNG as a means to reduce its trade deficit with the United States, but has steadily reduced its reliance on gas for power as clean energy output has increased.

Continued growth in clean generation - alongside rising home-made production of clean energy tech such as solar panels and battery systems - may help India limit its reliance on foreign-sourced fossil fuels while continuing to expand its overall energy generation.

New peak

Over the first half of 2025, India's utilities generated a record 236 terawatt hours (TWh) of clean electricity, data from Ember shows.

That total is 20% more than during the same months in 2024, and allowed utilities to curb generation from fossil fuels by 4% from the year before to around 691 TWh.

A 29% jump in wind generation (to 47.2 TWh) and a 25% rise in solar generation (to 85 TWh) were the main drivers of the advance in clean electricity supplies.

Record output from India's nuclear fleet - to 29 TWh - and a 14% year-over-year climb in output from hydro dams also helped lift the overall clean supply total.

On the fossil fuel side of the generation ledger, coal-fired electricity supplies dropped by 3% from the year before to 675 TWh, while gas-fired electricity output shrank by 34% to 13.75 TWh.

Seasonal sway

The collective upswing in multiple clean generation sources is leading to clean power grabbing a record share of India's generation mix, which will likely exceed 30% for the months of July, August and September.

The average clean generation share through the opening half of 2025 was 25%, compared to an average of 21% for the same months in 2024.

In June, clean power sources accounted for 31% of the overall generation mix, which was the highest reading on record for that month and meant the share from fossil fuel sources dropped below 70% for the first time.

Data on India's generation during July and August has yet to be released, but clean power sources are likely to have secured even larger shares of the overall mix during that period as wind and hydropower output tends to hit annual peaks around then.

Over the first half of 2025, total clean generation from all sources was around 24% more than average generation levels from India's clean generation assets during the same months from 2022 to 2024.

If wind and hydro production rise as expected during July, August and September, total clean electricity production in India will smash previous records this year and may set the stage for even steeper cuts to fossil fuel generation going forward.

Given the fast pace of electricity demand growth in India, utilities are likely to continue adding coal-fired generation capacity to the generation system to ensure that overall electricity supplies keep up with consumption.

But with solar and wind capacity expected to continue growing at a faster pace, the share of fossil fuels within India's overall generation mix may be close to peaking, which would mark a major milestone for India's fast-growing energy system.

An established peak in the share of fossil fuels in electricity generation could then trigger a potential decline in fossil fuel imports and use, and reduce the pressure on India to succumb to international pressure on oil and gas import trends.

IN BRIEF

K'taka name RJT squad

▸ Kemp FC's Mithila Ramani will lead the Karnataka senior women's side at the National Football Championship for the Rajamatha Jijabai Trophy 2025-26 in Narainpur, reports DHNS.
Karnataka squad: Mithila Ramani (c), Aishwarya A, Aruni Singh, Lidiya Dayalan, Aruna Bag, Priyanka M, Krishita Iyer, Niya Anand Reddy, Aadira Ghosh, Ruthu Sreenandan, Rosy Thanga, Aarushi Santhosh, Spoorthi KU, Rivka Ramji, Maanasa, Sheen Sharma, Afreen Peerbhoy, Harpitha B, Chinmayi Tili Head coach: Jayakumar P, Assistance coach: Saravanan D, Manager: Vanitha Gadaily, Physiotherapist: Prajna P Mallappa.

KSCA trials announced

▸ KSCA has announced open selection trials for senior women cricketers in the Bangalore Zone, scheduled for Sunday, reports DHNS.

The trials aim to pick three to four teams for the upcoming selection matches in mid-September. Interested players must report by 8:00 AM in cricket attire with a copy of their date of birth certificate. Only those born before August 31, 2009, are eligible.

Pak's Asif calls time on career

▸ Pakistan's middle-order batter in white-ball cricket Asif Ali on Tuesday announced his retirement from international cricket, reports PTI from Lahore.

McMillan named NZ-W coach

▸ Former New Zealand all-rounder Craig McMillan was on Tuesday appointed as the batting and fielding coach of the White Ferns ahead of the Women's ODI World Cup, which will be jointly hosted by India and Sri Lanka from September 30, reports PTI from Auckland.

The 48-year-old, who played 55 Tests and 197 ODIs, scoring more than 7,500 runs, joins head coach Ben Sawyer.

Top seed Snigdha saunters ahead

BENGALURU, DHNS: Top seed Snigdha Kanta, seventh seed Angel Patel and eighth seed Deepshika Vinayagamurthy progressed to the second round in the KSLTA ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors event here on Tuesday.

Among the winners in the boys' singles, third seed Dev Vipul Patel, fourth seed Vishal Vasudev M and sixth seed Adhiraj Thakur moved through while Rohith Hari Balaji Gobinath and USA's Niyanth Badrinarayanan produced notable wins.

Rohith Gobinath staged a stirring comeback to upset seventh seed Prakaash Sarran 2-6, 6-3, 6-2. In the girls' singles, 13-year-old Srishti Kiran shone with a straight-sets win over Tejaswi Mannen, 7-6 (6), 6-3. Srishti nearly conceded the first set, saving a set point in the tiebreak before edging it 8-6. She then took charge in the second, breaking twice to close out the match.
Results (prefix denotes seeding, Indians unless mentioned): Boys' singles: Rohith Gobinath bt 7-Prakaash Sarran 2-6, 6-3, 6-2; Srikar Doni bt Atharva Shukla 6-1, 6-2; 6-Adhiraj Tkakur bt Channamallikarjuna Yale 6-3, 7-6 (4); Diganth M bt Shourya Bhattacharya (USA) 6-1, 6-3; Pratyush Loganathan bt Atharva Sriramoju 6-4, 6-4; 3-Dev Vipul Patel bt Shounak Chatterjee 6-1, 6-1; 4-Vishal Vasudev M bt Panshul Uboveja 6-4, 6-0; Sumer Mehta bt Aarush Kote (USA) 5-7, 7-6, (6), 4-1 (retd); Niyanth Badrinarayanan (USA) bt Yashwin Dahiya 6-7(4), 6-3, 6-1.
Girls' singles: Nandini Kansal bt Dakshanasree S R 6-2, 6-3; 8-Deepshika Vinayagamurthy bt Riya Gangamma Pudiyokkada 6-1, 6-1; Srishti Kiran bt Tejaswi Manneni 7-6 (6), 6-3; 1-Snigdha Kanta bt Shreeya Deshpande 6-2, 6-1; 4-Aleena Farid bt Aarohi Vijay Deshmukh 6-2, 6-1; Disha Kumar bt Jahnavi Tammineedi 6-4, 6-0; Sai Ananya Varanasi bt K A Aadirai 7-6 (5), 6-2; Aaradhya Meena bt Sanmitha Harini Lokesh 6-0, 0-6, 6-4; 7-Angel Patel bt Devashree Mahadeshwar 2-6, 7-6 (9), 6-2.

◆ ON TV ◆

TENNIS
US Open: Quarterfinals **(11:30 pm onwards). LIVE** on **Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

CRICKET
1st T20: Zimbabwe vs Sri Lanka **(5:00 pm). LIVE** on **FanCode.**

HOCKEY ASIA CUP

Indians up against Korean Test

Hosts hope to bring A game versus defending champions

India's progress to the Super 4s hasn't been smooth and they would be keen to fix the problem areas. PTI

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

One narrow escape, another a grind and then a breeze saw India win all their three encounters to top Pool A at the Asia Cup in Rajgir.

With the initial stage of the 10-day event done and dusted, a tough test awaits the Harmanpreet Singh-led side when the Super 4s get underway at the Bihar Sports University Hockey Stadium from Wednesday.

India, along with their Pool A compatriots China and Pool B toppers Malaysia and Korea, will all play one match against each other before the top two teams at the end of Super 4s advance to the final for a shot at the title while the bottom two will fight it out for a third-place finish.

With the vulnerabilities of the strikers and the defenders exposed, especially during their wins against China and Japan in the opening two Pool A games, India will be cautious about slip-ups.

Not to forget, the biggest prize on offer - a World Cup berth - that India seek is still four games away.

First in line to challenge the hosts are defending champions Korea before the second-best team in the event Malaysia take them on September 4. Following a rest day, China will be seeking to avenge their loss when India face the world No. 22 on September 6.

SUPER 4S
- India, China, Malaysia, Korea
- India's schedule
- Sept 3: vs Korea (7:30 pm)
- Sept 4: vs Malaysia (7:30 pm)
- Sept 6: vs China (7:30 pm)

"Yeah, it's back-to-back. This is what we train for and what we have been practicing about. We are ready for it," coach Craig Fulton had said right after sailing past Kazakhstan 15-0 on Monday evening.

"I'm glad we have got no injuries. And playing at night also helps a little bit, we like it because its a full house, crowds are good, good energy."

Captain Harmanpreet and the team's go-to dragflicker has delivered when it has mattered most in terms of scoring. His defender colleagues, who have been under the radar for a while now, will be hoping to fortify their positions. All eyes will be on the strikers, in particular Dilpreet Singh, who have missed easy put-aways on several occasions. However, the mid-field department, led by seasoned pro Manpreet Singh, has been India's strong point.

"We are full of confidence now. We are where we want to be and getting into the Super 4s we want the strikers connecting and scoring goals and obviously nice play upfront, you can just run around and dribble and also to keep the defenders nice and sharp," offered Fulton. The five-time Asia Cup winners Korea, on the other hand, have had their own struggles to cater to. The errors from the world No. 15 during their 1-4 loss to Malaysia would have been closely studied by India while chalking out a game plan.

Abhinav, Sahana crowned champs

BENGALURU, DHNS: Abhinav Murthy and Sahana Murthy emerged champions in the men's and women's categories respectively at the State-ranking table tennis tournament at Tilakwadi Club in Belagavi on Tuesday.

Abhinav Murthy bounced back from his U-19 final loss to claim the senior title, defeating Varun Kashyap in the final. Varun had earlier beaten Yeshwanth P, while Abhinav overcame Aarnav N in the semis.

Sahana Murthy clinched the women's title by edging past Tanishka Kalbhairav in a seven-game thriller. In the U-19 boys' final, Aarnav N secured a hard-fought 11-6, 7-11, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9, 11-5 (4-2) win over Abhinav Murthy. Earlier, Aarnav overcame Varun Kashyap in the semi-final, while Abhinav defeated BR Gaurav.
Results (all finals): Men: Abhinav Murthy bt Varun Kashyap 6-11, 4-11, 11-6, 11-4, 11-4, 12-10.
Boys' U-19: Aarnav N bt Abhinav Murthy 11-6, 7-11, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9, 11 - 5.
Women: Sahana Murthy bt Tanishka Kalbhairav 11-8, 9-11, 10-12, 11-5, 5-11, 11-3, 11-7.

Sahana Murthy (left) and Abhinav Murthy pose with their spoils.

There's a greater understanding of mental side of the game in Indian team: Upton

HITA PRAKASH
RAJGIR, DHNS

Paddy Upton calls himself an accidental mental conditioning specialist and the story goes thus.

He once reached out to good friend and South African great Jacques Kallis for a casual chat over coffee after watching all-rounder struggle on the field. The conversation led Upton to become one of the most sought-after mind coaches in the field of sports.

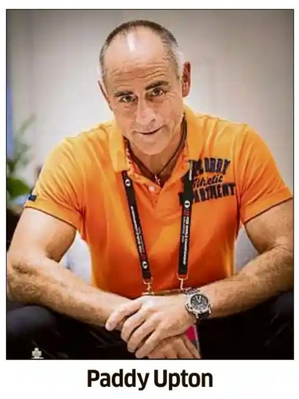
Upton, who started working with the Indian men's hockey team in 2023, is here with the squad at their Asia Cup campaign. The 56-year-old spoke to *DH* about the importance of mental fitness among athletes, the stigmas that still persist and how MS Dhoni added a new perspective to mind coaching. Excerpts...

Could you talk about the transition of the Indian men's hockey team since the first time you met them?
I think there's a greater awareness for each individual of how their mind works, how to manage their mind on an individual basis and on a team basis. There is now a deeper understanding of what the mental side of the game actually means. One of the key pieces of mental coaching is distraction management and I have tried to help them understand this better.

Does your process change when you're dealing with a team as opposed to someone who plays an individual sport?
The principles of high performance, of managing, thinking, behaving like a champion are universal across the board. They are just applied differently in a sport like chess compared to a sport like hockey; one is all in the mind, this is so much in the body. And it differs from individual to individual, not so much sport to sport.

It's just for me to adapt to the different personalities and the other challenge here with hockey is not everyone is good in English and my Hindi is not very good either so we need to navigate that language barrier.

Is there still a stigma even at the elite level for athletes to open up and talk about the mental side of what they're going through?


Paddy Upton

> **Dhoni said: 'Paddy, you don't always have to talk in the meetings.' And that was a beautiful lesson.**
> Paddy Upton

I wouldn't say there's a stigma. The thing with athletes is they are so used to covering up their doubts, their negative thoughts, their vulnerabilities, their insecurities. Because, if the coach sees it, the coach will drop them. If the opponent sees it, the opponent will exploit it. Speaking about a vulnerability and insecurity, particularly as an athlete, is a strength, it's not a weakness. But for too long, it's been labelled as a weakness and more so in male sports than female sports.

What are some of the common mental blocks that athletes come to you with?
The most common one is pressure. Pressure is always about the amount of importance we place on a result in future. Chasing success causes pressure. Running away from failure causes fear of failure or anxiety.

MS Dhoni

Players worrying about being dropped, worrying about making a mistake, worrying about being eliminated, goalkeepers worrying about conceding a goal and what will people say...

Fear of failure is the second one. And probably the third one would be off-field distractions. It's really big. In my experience, most distractions that athletes face are a parent being sick or a loved one being sick, an argument within the family, financial problems, maybe a legal issue or some indiscretion that's come up in their private life that is threatening to become public, which we've seen happen. And probably the fourth biggest distraction is when you have an unhealthy team environment.

What is the difference between Indians and athletes of other countries in terms of mental fitness?
So every nation has what I call a DNA of their psyche. So Australians have a certain psychology and it's generalised. But it's a good generalisation. Indians have a certain psyche. Indian hockey has traditionally been very intuitive, instinctive, flair-based, very individual, whereas you get teams like Germany, Holland and Australia... they are very, very structured.

What would your advice be to young mental conditioning coaches or psychologists?
I would tell them to study themselves more than they study sports psychology and the people they're working with. Raise your self-awareness and be the best human being you can be first. And I will always remember I made that mistake with the Indian cricket team. I would always speak at team meetings when I first joined the team. And about six weeks into my tenure, after speaking in a meeting before practice, we were walking over to the nets and (MS) Dhoni came to me, put his arm around me very gently with compassion and then he said, 'Paddy, you don't always have to talk in meetings.' And that was a beautiful lesson.

I was so wanting to make an impression. And I was doing more talking than listening. Join a new team, close your mouth, open your eyes, open your ears. So that would be my advice.

PL clubs break $4 billion barrier

LONDON, AFP

Premier League clubs demonstrated their awesome financial power during the summer transfer window, spending more than £3 billion ($4 billion) on new signings.

The English top division has long enjoyed a competitive economic advantage over rival European leagues thanks to far more lucrative television contracts for both domestic and international rights.

The expansion of UEFA's European competitions has supercharged spending, with a record nine English teams involved in the Champions League, Europa League or Conference League this season.

Another consequence of the Premier League's financial power is the growing gulf between clubs in the top division and those in the second-tier Championship.

For the past two seasons all three promoted sides have gone straight back down, provoking a more proactive approach from Leeds United, Sunderland and Burnley.

TOP TRANSFERS (EUROPE)
- Alexander Isak: Newcastle United to Liverpool (Rs 1530 cr)
- Florian Wirtz: Bayer Leverkusen to Liverpool (Rs 1270 cr)
- Hugo Ekitike: Frankfurt to Liverpool (Rs 967 cr)
- Benjamin Sesko: RB Leipzig to Manchester United (Rs 778 cr)
- Matheus Cunha: Wolves to Manchester United (Rs 775 cr)
- Luis Diaz: Liverpool to Bayern Munich (Rs 713 cr)
- Martin Zubimendi: Real Sociedad to Arsenal (Rs 713 cr)
- Eberechi Eze: Crystal Palace to Arsenal (Rs 707 cr)
- Xavi Simons: RB Leipzig to Tottenham Hotspur (Rs 613 cr)
- Dean Huijsen: Bournemouth to Real Madrid (Rs 589 cr)
- As per the current exchange rate

Men's relay team falls behind after promising highs

ADITYA K HALDER
BENGALURU, DHNS

Neeraj Chopra continued to be the buzzword as India announced their squad for the World Athletics Championships on Sunday. The javelin star, after all, is on the cusp of another historic moment as he defends his title in Tokyo this month. However, if one looks beyond the blue-eyed boy, some key absences in the 19-member team are glaring.

Especially for those who watched the men's 4x400m relay team — under the new coach Jason Dawson—rubbing shoulders with the big boys to finish unprecedented fifth in Budapest 2023. The quartet of Muhammed Anas, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh broke the three-minute barrier twice to set the new Asian record while breathing down the necks of mighty Jamaicans. From the promising height to not featuring in the next event at all leaves the inevitable question: What went wrong?

Turns out, a lot did.

To put it plainly, they missed the Tokyo berth because they failed to be among the top 16 in the world. Their best timing (3:00.58 at the Paris Olympics) during the qualification period places them 19th in the rankings behind Germany, Italy and Zambia, with the last-mentioned taking the final available spot.

However, a closer look reveals that the successful quartet was never retained after the Paris 2024 disappointment, when it missed out on the final berth by a spot.

That's because a "civil war" broke out between coach Dawson and senior runners, who allegedly filed a complaint against the Jamaican with the Sports Authority of India over his harsh behaviour and also subjecting them to too much load during training sessions.

Indian quarter-milers Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh set the Asian record at the previous edition of World Athletics Championships in Budapest. REUTERS

"We were willing to walk out of the camp as many of us felt the coach wasn't respecting us," a runner, who trained under Dawson at Trivandrum camp, told *DH* on conditions of anonymity. "His training loads were something we were struggling to adapt to. Many of us were injured."

Eventually, former 400m national record holder Anas officially walked out of the camp to train with his personal coach. Two of the remaining members decided to train under an experienced domestic AFI coach, while another moved to a private programme in Karnataka, citing rehabilitation for his injury.

'One-race athletes'

These were seen as mere excuses by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) senior officials, who were not impressed by the culture of athletes not running enough races. AFI spokesperson Adille Sumariwalla recently came down hard on such an approach, blaming the Indian coaches for not making the athletes race enough.

"Our athletes were all one-race athletes," said Sumariwalla during the squad announcement conference. "When the coach (Dawson) tried to make them two-race or three-race athletes, they didn't want to take the load. Again... our Indian coaches were trying to save them, I really don't know for what."

The star quartet, of course, was out of the relay team and by May 2025 at the World Relays in Guangzhou, India had a fresh batch of 400m relay quartet (Santhosh Kumar T, Manu TS, Vishal TK and Mohit Kumar), who finished 15th (at 3:03.92) in the qualifying round 1 for an early exit. This was the best chance for them to qualify for Tokyo, as the top 14 were granted a direct entry.

"The result in China was not a surprise," said one of the runners who was part of the squad. "We somehow reached the competition, as many of us were and are injured. That's because none of us was used to the training load of the coach."

While the China setback reflected badly on coach Dawson, Vishal TK came out as his saviour with a national record show of 45.12 seconds at the National Inter-State Championships. The triumph was followed by a placard acknowledging Dawson's hand in it. The Jamaican saw this as the right opportunity to vent out his anger as well.

Teen Ishaan triumphs in Sr category

BENGALURU, DHNS: City teenager Ishaan Madesh (Peregrine Racing) shrugged off an up-and-down weekend to post a big win in the Finals of the Senior category even as eight-year-old Arshi Gupta, the only female driver in the Micro Max grid, completed a double in the third round of the MECO-FMSCI National Karting Championship Rotax Max Classes at the Madras International Karting Arena (MIKA) circuit on Sunday.

Earlier in the day, Mumbai's Kiaan Shah (Rayo Racing) topped both Pre-Finals and Finals in the Junior Max class as did Rivaan Dev Preetham (MSPORT) from Chennai in the Mini Max and Aarshi (Leapfrog Racing) from Faridabad in the Micro Max category.

K'taka fret over pacers ahead of Thimmappiah tourney

BENGALURU, DHNS: Karnataka selectors would be looking to build a healthy pace unit ahead of the Ranji Trophy when the all-India Capt K Thimmappiah memorial tournament commences at various venues here and Mysuru from Thursday.

With Vyshakh Vijaykumar injured, Koushik V moving to Goa and Prasidh Krishna joining the National Cricket Academy, ahead of the home Test series against West Indies, Karnataka aren't left with many experienced options.

Karnataka, as has been the norm, have fielded four teams in the 16-team event and they'd be hoping to unearth a fresh crop of talented pacers. While a fit-again Vidwath Kaverappa is good news, they would be wary of potential injuries in a long tournament and will have to judiciously use their services.

Among the batters, the returning Karun Nair is still nursing an injury while Mayank Agarwal would be turning up in County cricket. Abhinav Manohar and Shubang Hegde, among a few others, have been sidelined after sustaining injuries in the just-concluded Maharaja Trophy T20 event.

KSCA XI: Smaran R (captain), Macneil Noronha, Aneesh KV, Shrijith KL (wk), Shreyas Gopal, Yashovardhan Parantap, Hardik Raj, Shashikumar K, Vidwath Kaverappa, Vidyadhar Patil, Abhilash Shetty, Luvnith Sisodia (wk), Nathan D'Mello, Goutham Mishra, Santosh Hatti. **Coach**: Mansur Ali Khan; **S&C coach**: Irfanulla Khan; **Physiotherapist**: Abhishek Kulkarni; **Video analyst**: Giri Prasad.
KSCA President's XI: Kishan S Bedare (captain), Karthik SU, Jasper EJ, Harshawardhan Khuba, Niranjan, Sujay Sateri (wk), Adhoksh Hegde, Shreesha S Achar, Dhanush Gowda, Aaditya Nair, Pravesh KM, Nithin Shanthaveri, Yash Raj Punja, Rajendra Danganavar, Sharath Srinivas. **Coach**: Adithya Sagar; **Coach**: SR Deepu; **S&C coach**: Kiran A; **Physiotherapist**: Akshay; **Video analyst**: Kiran Kudtarkar.
KSCA Secretary's XI: SJ Nikin Jose (captain), Yashwanth BN, Tushar Singh, Samit Dravid, Lochan S Gowda, Kruthik Krishna (wk), Dheeraj J Gowda, Venkatesh M, Rajvir Wadhwa, Nishchith Pai, Faizan Khan (wk), Swaroop SH, Abhishek Ahlawat, Aditya Rao, Madhav P Bajaj, Dhruv Prabhakar. **Coach**: Kunal Kapoor; **S&C coach**: Snehit Rai; **Physiotherapist**: Anush; **Video analyst**: Pradeep.
KSCA Colts XI: Aneeshwar Gautam (captain), Prakhar Chaturvedi, Vishal Onat, Harshil Dharmani, Karthikeya KP, Sanjay Ashwin (wk), Mohsin Khan, Shikhar Shetty, Samarth Nagaraj, Monish Reddy, Ishaan S, Shreyank Sagar, Anirudh Srinivas (wk), Toufeeq S, Abhay Rangan, Aarav Mahesh. **Coach**: Somashekar Shiraguppi; **S&C coach**: Basavaraj; **Physiotherapist**: Joby Mathew; **Video analyst**: Rajeev P.

Nigeria joins India in CWG bidding race

NEW DELHI, PTI: India is not the lone bidder for the 2030 Commonwealth Games and will face competition from Nigeria to get the hosting rights of the multi-sporting event as the African nation has also submitted its formal bid before the August 31 deadline.

Commonwealth Sport (CS), the governing body of the CWG, on Monday confirmed Nigeria's formal submission of the bid. Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on Friday said it has submitted the final bid documents to Commonwealth Sport for the 2030 CWG, with Ahmedabad as its preferred host city.

Shine favoured for feature

KOLKATA SELECTIONS

Shine, from the stables Vijay Singh, to be ridden by Sandesh, is fancied to win the Calcutta Fillies Trial Stakes, the feature event of the Kolkata races to be run over a distance of seven furlongs at the races on Wednesday.
The first race starts at 1:45 pm.
1. Star Treasure Handicap - 1600M: Global Fashion 1, Artemis Zelda 2, Cool Daddy 3.
2. Brush Aside Handicap - 1800M: Arabeska 1, Good Deeds 2, Galway Girl 3.
3. Shivansh Cup - 1600M: Sativur 1, Raffaello 2, Stormy Ocean 3.
4. Retort Handicap - 1400M: Zambezi 1, Indian Jack 2, Only Dreams 3.
5. Calcutta Fillies Trial Stakes - 1400M: Shine 1, Morano 2, Polka Dot 3.
6. Dysnomia Handicap (Div I) - 1200M: Sabar 1, Victorious Omen 2, Oishika 3.
7. Dysnomia Handicap (Div II) - 1200M: Cyrenaica 1, N R I Fantasy 2, Keitaro 3.
Day's best: Arabeska. **Jackpot:** 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7. **I treble:** 2, 3 & 4. **II treble:** 5, 6 & 7.

TENNIS US OPEN

Osaka delivers a statement show

Champ Sinner, Swiatek cruise into quarterfinals

NEW YORK, AFP

Naomi Osaka delivered a statement win at the US Open by thrashing home favourite Coco Gauff in the last 16 on Monday, while Jannik Sinner and Iga Swiatek charged into the quarterfinals as well.

The Japanese powered past third seed Gauff 6-3, 6-2 in a highly anticipated but lopsided fourth-round showdown of former US Open champions on the Labor Day holiday in New York. Osaka broke in the very first game in front of an expectant Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd and was untouchable on serve in a ruthless display against a misfiring Gauff, who hit 33 unforced errors.

"This is my favourite court in the world and it means so much to me to be back today," said Osaka, who looks primed for a tilt at a fifth Grand Slam. "This is kind of uncharted territory at this point of my career," added Osaka. "I'm just enjoying it. I'm having fun."

The 27-year-old tennis star, a two-time US Open champion, is enjoying her deepest run at a major since winning her second Australian Open title in 2021. It has been a painstaking climb back towards the top of the game for Osaka, who returned to tennis last year following the birth of her daughter in 2023.

Osaka plays Czech Republic's 11th seed Karolina Muchova in Wednesday's quarterfinals. Muchova beat Ukrainian 27th seed Marta Kostyuk 6-3, 6-7 (0/7), 6-3 and is seeking a third straight semifinal at Flushing Meadows.

Reigning men's champion Sinner obliterated the unpredictable Alexander Bublik 6-1, 6-1, 6-1 in just 81 minutes to start the night session.

Sinner is trying to become the first man to defend the US Open since Roger Federer won the last of his five successive titles in 2008. He advances to an all-Italian match-up with 10th seed Lorenzo Musetti, who demolished unseeded Spaniard Jaume Munar 6-3, 6-0, 6-1 to reach his first US Open quarter-final.

Swiatek brushed off Russian 13th seed Ekaterina Alexandrova 6-3, 6-1 in barely an hour to extend her Grand Slam winning streak to 11 matches as she targets a second US Open crown.

The Polish second seed faces Amanda Anisimova in a repeat of the Wimbledon final, which Swiatek won 6-0, 6-0. The American thumped Brazilian 18th seed Beatriz Haddad 6-0, 6-3.

Men's eighth seed Alex de Minaur sealed his passage to the quarter-finals with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 win over Swiss qualifier Leandro Riedi.

Fourth round results (Prefix denotes seedings): Men: 1-Jannik Sinner (Ita) bt 23-Alexander Bublik (Kaz) 6-1, 6-1, 6-1; 10-Lorenzo Musetti (Ita) bt Jaume Munar (Esp) 6-3, 6-0, 6-1; 25-Felix Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt 15-Andrey Rublev (Rus) 7-5, 6-3, 6-4; 8-Alex de Minaur (Aus) bt Leandro Riedi (SUI) 6-3, 6-2, 6-1. **Women:** 11-Karolina Muchova (Cze) bt 27-Marta Kostyuk (Ukr) 6-3, 6-7 (0/7), 6-3; 23-Naomi Osaka (Jpn) bt 3-Coco Gauff (USA) 6-3, 6-2; 8-Amanda Anisimova (USA) bt 18-Beatriz Haddad Maia (Bra) 6-0, 6-3; 2-Iga Swiatek (Pol) bt 13-Ekaterina Alexandrova (Rus) 6-3, 6-1.

Japan's Naomi Osaka returns during her win over US' Coco Gauff in the fourth round on Tuesday. IMAGN IMAGES

Pegula soars into semis

Jessica Pegula coasted into the US Open semifinals on Tuesday with a straight-sets win over two-time Grand Slam champion Barbora Krejcikova, reports AFP from New York.

The American fourth seed -- a beaten finalist in New York last year -- saw off the 62nd-ranked Krejcikova 6-3, 6-3 . "I think I've been playing some really good tennis," said Pegula. "I feel like I'm just really comfortable."

Pegula will play reigning US Open champion Aryna Sabalenka or former Wimbledon winner Marketa Vondrousova on Thursday.

German great Furste credits HIL for Indian hockey bloom

VIGNESH BHARADWAJ
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Hockey Stadium at Akkithimmanahalli on Tuesday was teeming with young players waiting to pick the brains of Moritz Furste, the German hockey legend who was in the city as part of the official delegation of the German foreign minister Johann Wadephul.

For Furste, however, gratitude was the prevailing theme.

"For me, it is fantastic to meet my former team-mates and the people I played against for a long time," Furste told *DH*. "We were fighting and trying to win games. And now, we meet again to talk about how things are running in our country. That's really a blessing."

The two-time Olympic gold medallist was also excited to bring both worlds (politics and sports) together and was hopeful that both countries could learn from each other.

Hockey in India has taken a lift off after both the men's and women's sides ended decades in the doldrums by making the semifinals of the Tokyo Olympics.

While the women's team went down in the bronze medal play-off, the men's side bagged back-to-back medals in the Tokyo and Paris Olympics.

Olympic gold medallist Moritz Furste greets young hockey players at the Hockey Stadium in Bengaluru on Tuesday. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

"India were always known for their spectacular style," Furste noted. "They had individual stars who were very skillful. But the level was not high. It was all individual brilliance. At that time, they couldn't compete on a strategic level against European teams. But I think they are absolutely there now and have been playing for medals at the Olympic Games and World Cups."

While the athletes deserve credit for how they have developed over the years, the impact the Hockey India League (HIL) has had on Indian hockey is significant. Despite some hits-and-misses with finance and scheduling, it has developed young stars and has made experienced ones more mature while brushing shoulders with the world's best.

According to Furste, the HIL has allowed India to be more tactical, structured and mature with respect to their own game.

"I think, especially through the HIL, the Indian players have managed to get more mature with their playing style. More mature in regards to how they structure the game, how they tactically play. It's not only individual play anymore."

While support needs to come from every front, Furste highlighted the importance of education in molding an athlete at the international level.

"The education of the players plays such a big role in international hockey," he observes. "If you can't speak English, you will never dare to ask for the video umpire. And this was happening, right? If you can't talk to your team-mates, you can't get better. Over the years, education got better. So I think the progress of Indian hockey has been amazing."

One of the most talked about aspects in Indian sport is physicality. While India's raw, athletic game is still being refined, the 2006 World Cup winner thinks that the players' physicality has massively helped their success.

"The game is so fast now. The physicality is the biggest difference. So that's an important variable. I don't know the results from 10 years ago but the results now, I think physicality has a definite part to play." he concluded.

Starc calls time on T20s to focus on Tests, ODIs

SYDNEY, AFP: Prolific Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc announced his immediate retirement from T20 international cricket on Tuesday, saying he wanted to focus on his Test and ODI career.

"Test cricket is and has always been my highest priority," the 35-year-old said in a statement, ruling himself out of the T20 World Cup in February-March.

"I have loved every minute of every T20 game I have played for Australia, particularly the 2021 World Cup," he added.

Starc, who played 65 matches for his country in the shortest format, was part of the Australia side that lifted the world title that year.

His 79 wickets in T20Is make him the second-highest for Australia after Adam Zampa.

Starc steps away with a busy schedule to come, including a home Ashes series starting later this year and a one-day World Cup on the horizon.

"Looking ahead to an away Indian Test tour, the Ashes and an ODI World Cup in 2027, I feel this is my best way forward to remain fresh, fit and at my best for those campaigns," said Starc.

Mitchell Starc

"It also gives the bowling group time to prepare for the T20 World Cup in the matches leading into that tournament," he added.

Cummins out

Australia's premier pacer and Test skipper Pat Cummins was on Tuesday ruled out of the upcoming white-ball series against India and New Zealand due to a lower-back issue, with Cricket Australia saying that his "rehabilitation" is being managed keeping the Ashes in mind.

Australia face New Zealand in three T20Is from October 1 before hosting India for three ODIs (October 19-25) and five T20Is (October 29-November 8).

'Ban' casts shadow over top-flight cricket in B'luru

Justice to victims should be priority but don't make the game scapegoat

MADHU JAWALI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Cricket in Bengaluru has rarely faced a crisis of this nature. The June 4 stampede that claimed 11 lives and left scores injured during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebrations has cast a dark shadow over top-flight cricket in the City. The M Chinnaswamy Stadium, the scene of the tragedy, has since turned into a playground for blame-shifting and ego clashes with each party seeking to absolve itself while pointing fingers at others.

While Karnataka State Cricket Association and RCB -- the hosts of the victory celebration event and organisers respectively -- are understandably in the dock, the State government hasn't covered itself in glory by its attempt to shirk responsibility. The Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister had played prominent roles in the celebrations -- from hosting the team in front of the Vidhana Soudha to the DCM leading the cavalcade at the airport to eventually joining the festivities at the stadium. To now distance themselves from the chain of unfortunate events seems bizarre.

The Justice Michael D'Cunha Commission, which looked into the stampede, made a critical assessment that the Stadium was "unsuitable and unsafe for mass gatherings" while suggesting structural changes and design modifications.

"Until such infrastructural changes are made, continuing to host high-attendance events at the current location poses unacceptable risks to public safety, urban mobility, and emergency preparedness," the commission stated.

The June 4 stampede, which claimed 11 lives and left scores injured, and subsequent restrictions by City cops for hosting cricket matches, have cast a dark shadow over the M Chinnaswamy Stadium. DH PHOTO/ PUSHKAR V

For the embattled government, however, the report has now become a stick to beat the KSCA with. It denied the organisation the permission to host the Maharaja Trophy T20 tournament, which was eventually held in Mysuru with restrictions on crowd entry, and set stringent guidelines before going ahead with the Women's ODI World Cup matches which were allotted to Chinnaswamy. Given the implausibility of implementing the measures set by the City cops in a time-bound manner, the matches had to be moved to Navi Mumbai.

For example, one of the conditions was providing a dedicated parking lot to vehicles. No cricket stadium in the world has such a facility because it's just not practical. It's as good as putting a ban without stating it in as many words.

What, though, must not be forgotten is that June 4 wasn't about a cricket match. Nearly three lakh people had landed there assuming there would be a free entry or free passes would be distributed. The police presence for such a large gathering was woefully inadequate and organisation machinery was lax. It was a disaster waiting to happen. The stadium has a history of hosting matches for 50 years, including Test matches, ODIs and ICC white-ball spectacles, without a comparable mishap, barring a few minor incidents during ticket sales.

Let's further see why the government's decision has no rationale. While barely a few hundred fans come for domestic matches, internationals are ticketed and there's no scope for a large crowd, the size of which one saw on June 4, to gather. Also, on that fateful day, there was barely a few hours' turnaround time for the cops to turn up in full strength after patrolling the entire city even as ecstatic fans celebrated RCB's win till the wee hours of June 4. Ahead of a match, however, there is always ample time to put in place a coordinated system with all the agencies concerned for the smooth conduct. And it's been done for half a century!

Yes, Bengaluru has outgrown the stadium. Built in 1974, the Chinnaswamy may no longer meet the demands of the city bursting at its seams. But a blanket ban on cricket can't be the solution. By that logic, every pothole-ridden road that claims dozens of lives each year will have to be shut down until fixed. The June 4 tragedy was heartbreaking and nothing can compensate the affected families. But the way forward lies in corrective measures, both short-term and long-term, not in vindictive actions that serve little beyond massaging bruised egos.

BCCI invites bids for title sponsorship

NEW DELHI, PTI: The BCCI on Tuesday invited bids for the Indian cricket team's title sponsorship rights after fantasy sports giants Dream11's pullout and barred companies dealing in real money gaming and cryptocurrency from the process due to a government ban on such entities.

The Indian team will be without a title sponsor in the Asia Cup starting September 9 in the UAE as the Board has set September 16 as the last date to submit bids.

Dream 11 recently shut down its real money games due to the 'Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act 2025', which states that "no person shall offer any, aid, abet, induce, indulge, engage in offering online money gaming services nor shall involve in any advertisement which directly or indirectly promotes any person to play any online money game".

Dream 11 and My11Circle jointly contributed about Rs 1,000 crore to the BCCI through title sponsorship of the Indian cricket team and Indian Premier League.

The last date for the purchase of the Invitation for Expression of Interest (IEOI), which will cost Rs 5 lakh, is September 12.

Praggu eyes Candidates berth

SAMARKAND (UZBEKISTAN), PTI: India's top-ranked Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa will be keen to seal his Candidates tournament 2026 berth, taming a strong field in the FIDE Grand Swiss that begins here on Wednesday.

The 11-round tournament, which carries a total prize pool of USD 625,000 in the open section and USD 230,000 in the women's section, will see the top two players entering the Candidates in the open and women's categories.

The gifted Praggnanandhaa is almost assured of his place in the Candidates thanks to a healthy lead that he enjoys in the performance category qualifier for 2025.

The Candidates consists of eight contestants with one player qualifying on his performance in the FIDE circuit in 2024 and 2025, two players from Grand Swiss, three players from World Cup to be held in Goa in October-November this year and and two players based on six months of highest rating average.

Fabiano Caruana of the US has already made it to the Candidates thanks to his brilliant run in 2024.

SA hammer England

LEEDS, AFP: South Africa inflicted a humiliating seven-wicket defeat upon England in the first one-day international in Leeds on Tuesday.

Victory for the Proteas was all but assured after they skittled out England for just 131 with more than half of the hosts' overs remaining.

Left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj (4-22) and all-rounder Wiaan Mulder (3-33) did the bulk of the damage at an overcast Headingley after Proteas captain Temba Bavuma won the toss.

Aiden Markram then struck a 23-ball fifty, including eight fours and two sixes, as South Africa finished on 137-3 with nearly 30 overs to spare.

The series continues at Lord's on Thursday.

Brief scores: England: 131 all out in 24.3 overs (Jamie Smith 54; Wiaan Mulder 3-33, Keshav Maharaj 4-22) lt to South Africa: 137/3 in 20.5 overs (Aiden Markram 86, Ryan Rickelton 31 n.o.; Adil Rashid 3-26) by 7 wkts.
Series: SA lead three-match series 1-0. **PoM:** Keshav Maharaj.
Second ODI: Sept 4 (Lord's).

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